

African leaders meet to boost ties

NAIROBI (R) — The leaders of seven East and Central African countries began meeting on Monday to promote regional unity and establish a framework for cooperation. Kenya's President Daniel Arap Moi said in opening the summit that they shared a common concern for security and stability and each could help the other. The conference, the third in seven months, brings together new leaders from Tanzania, Uganda and Sudan and the presidents of Kenya, Zaire, Burundi and Rwanda. The security issue is expected to figure prominently in bilateral talks the leaders will have during their 24-hour visit to Kenya. Sudan's Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi is seeking an end to the secessionist war being fought in southern Sudan where his country borders Uganda.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press and Publishing Company
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الراي

Oman, S. Yemen to hold talks

BAHRAIN (R) — Oman and South Yemen will hold talks in Aden on their disputed border in the first week of December, the official Omani News Agency reported Monday. The agency also quoted the under-secretary at the foreign affairs ministry, Sayyed Haitham Ibn Tareq, as saying the two countries had decided to open embassies in each other's capitals early next year. The two neighbours established diplomatic relations and started border talks in 1983, after mediation by Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) ended years of hostility over South Yemen's past support to Omani rebels. But they have not yet exchanged ambassadors and have instead conducted diplomatic contacts through their embassies in Kuwait and the UAE.

Volume 11 Number 3221

AMMAN, TUESDAY JULY 15, 1986, DHUL QAIDEH 12, 1406

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Abu Ghazala visits Mu'ta University

AMMAN (Petra) — Egyptian Defence Minister Field Marshal Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala on Monday visited Mu'ta University. He was received by the university president, Dr. Ali Mahafza, and the vice president for military affairs, Marshal Abu Ghazala and an Egyptian delegation accompanying him were briefed on the university's establishment and development and its role in preparing and providing academic and military cadres for the Armed Forces. Marshal Abu Ghazala and the delegation toured the various sections of the university and then paid a visit to an air force base.

Committee on Dome of the Rock meets today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Chief Islamic Justice Sheikh Mohammad Mhaleb on Tuesday presides over a meeting of a special committee in charge of reconstruction of the Dome of the Rock and Al Aqsa Mosque in occupied Jerusalem. The committee will discuss covering the Dome of the Rock with gold-plated copper at an estimated cost of JD 1,750,000, of which JD 500,000 will be allocated by the Prime Ministry to carry out necessary repair works.

Jordan Press and Publishing Company elects officials

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Board of Directors of the Jordan Press and Publishing Company, which publishes 'Al-Dustour' and the 'Jerusalem Star', held a meeting on Monday during which they elected the new chairman and vice-chairman and director general of the company. Mr. Mahmoud Al Sherif was elected chairman and director general, while Mr. Abdul Salam Al Tarawneh was appointed editor in chief of 'Al-Dustour'. The company's general assembly met on Monday and elected without vote Mr. Mahmoud Al Sherif, Mr. Kamel Al Sherif, Mr. Hassan Al Tal, Mr. Mohammad Khasir Qandoor, Mr. Ali Gharaibeh, Mr. Jawad Haddad, Mr. Ghaleb Abu Qoura and Mr. Nabil Muasher as members of the board of directors.

Mitterrand to refuse to sign decree

PARIS (AP) — French Socialist President Francois Mitterrand announced Monday he would refuse to sign a decree issued by the conservative government to denationalize 65 state-owned banks, insurance companies and major industries. He said he could not, in conscience, sign the decree at next Wednesday's cabinet meeting, because he did not have the necessary assurances that industries vital to France's national independence would not fall into foreign hands when privatised. Mr. Mitterrand told a television interviewer the privatisation law would have to be passed in the normal fashion by the conservative majority in the National Assembly, incorporating recent suggestions by the watchdog constitutional council.

King pledges continued efforts to boost W. Bank steadfastness

His Majesty, opening expatriates meeting, says differences with PLO leaders have no impact on Jordan's commitments

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein said on Monday that political differences between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leadership will not affect the Kingdom's efforts to strengthen the steadfastness of Palestinian people living in the occupied Arab territories.

The King, inaugurating the Second Jordanian Expatriates Conference, also pledged to continue Jordan's open bridges policy to the Israeli-occupied West Bank as part of the Kingdom's efforts to help the people remain on their land there. "We will continue to work according to this policy out of awareness of the nature of the silent battle that Jordan is fighting alongside the Palestinian people for the preservation of the land and its Arab identity there," the King said.

The King also said Jordan would take necessary measures to ensure the bridges "pump life and

support of steadfastness that you form part of its components would remain the basis on which we build our national efforts for the sake of liberating the land and the people."

Reaffirming Jordan's commitment towards the inhabitants of the occupied territories and efforts to end the Israeli occupation, the King said "irrespective of the political differences in positions and objectives between ourselves and the various leaderships of the PLO, our open-bridges policy and the support of our brethren's steadfastness will remain divorced from these differences. We will continue to live up to our duties towards our brethren, with persistence and awareness, as a fulfillment of our noble mission and our beloved Jerusalem and our Arab Nation."

The King emphasised the importance of the expatriates' conference, and said: "The recommendations that resulted from our first meeting were objective and direct in helping out the government institutions in deciphering your needs and interests. The government has tried its utmost during the last year to take the proper measures to implement what concerns you from provisions and offer the necessary base for security most needed by expatriates, any expatriate. Therefore services became available as in housing, social security, higher learning and others. Relations improved between Jordan and its brothers abroad through visits, meetings and exchange of information."

The King noted that due to falling oil prices, "there is a shrinking of the labour movement" heading to the Gulf. He said Jordan's cooperation with host governments, along with efforts of the workers themselves, "have ensured the continuity of work for a majority of Jordanian workers."

The King noted that the "regional economic recession has had a negative impact on economic development in Jordan," but he said that the recession was "coming to an end, to be followed by a period of recovery."

(Full text of the King's speech appears on page 3).

Israeli cabinet blocks full inquiry into Shin Bet, endorses police probe

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel's cabinet on Monday voted against a full-scale probe of a cover-up of responsibility for the killing of two Palestinian prisoners which would have been expected to delve into allegations that Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir was involved.

An acrimonious, nine-hour debate in the ruling coalition ended in a 14-11 vote against appointing an inquiry commission to examine the activities of the Shin Bet internal security service. However, Cabinet Secretary Yoel Beilin said a long-delayed police inquiry into the affair will get under way. Asked if Mr. Shamir might be investigated, he said the police "would not limit the time of its probe or the people it investigated."

The vote was a defeat for Prime Minister Shimon Peres and his Labour Party, which pressed for the appointment of a commission. But it was not a clear-cut victory for Mr. Shamir's right-wing Likud, which had hoped to block any further probe into the beating deaths during interrogation of two bus hijackers in April 1984.

Shin Bet chief Avraham Shalom said in a letter read to the supreme court last month that all his actions in connection with the hijacking were authorised. The statement implicated Mr. Shamir, who as prime minister at the time, had sole responsibility for the intelligence services.

Likud feared a government-appointed commission would be more likely than police to probe Mr. Shamir's role and voted as a bloc against Attorney General Yoel Harish's demand for an inquiry commission.

Health Minister Mordechai Gur, a member of Mr. Peres' Labour Party who had supported the inquiry commission, called the cabinet decision an "escape from responsibility."

Interviewed on Israel Radio, Mr. Gur said that during the meeting he insisted that everyone involved in the affair be removed from their positions, including Mr. Shamir who is to take over from Mr. Peres as premier next October. Mr. Gur said Mr. Shamir should be barred from the premiership.

4 killed and 12 wounded in Israeli air raid near Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — At least two people were killed and 12 wounded when Israeli jets bombed hills southeast of Beirut on Monday.

Police and the International Committee of Red Cross said in separate communiques that two Palestinians perished in the 30-minute raid at the towns of 'Ainab, Baysour, Shiman and Ainab at 10:50 a.m.

Militia spokesmen said in a separate statement later that two militiamen also were killed in the air raid on their hinterland above the Lebanese capital.

Prime Minister Rashid Karami said the Israeli attack was aimed at "sabotaging the Beirut security plan," which was launched under Syria's auspices two weeks ago to reinstate government authority.

A squadron of 10 F-15 and two Phantom F-4 fighter bombers made five bombing and rocketing passes in the central Lebanese mountains, 20 kilometres southeast of Beirut, police said.

In Tel Aviv, an Israeli army spokesman said the raids were aimed at Palestinian targets for the second time in a week.

The raid followed the interception of a Palestinian squad trying to infiltrate Israel from the sea last Thursday in which four commandos and two Israeli

soldiers were killed. Hours after that clash, Israeli helicopters bombed the 'Ain Al Hilweh refugee camp outside Sidon, in South Lebanon, killing or wounding 10 people.

Three previous Israeli air raids this year were all in the Sidon area, to which Israel claims Palestinian fighters have returned after withdrawing during the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

The Israeli spokesman did not name the groups targeted in Monday's raid.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and Lebanon's Syrian Socialist National Party jointly mounted the attempted seaborne attack.

The mountains are controlled by the predominantly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), but Palestinian commandos are reported to be manning artillery positions there.

The two main stricken targets belonged to the PFLP and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), guerrilla commanders on the scene told AP.

One was a three-storey stone house in Ainab that served as a PFLP centre. It was flattened. The other was a four-storey building used by the DFLP about 80 metres from the PFLP base. The

three upper stories collapsed over the ground floor in a big heap of rubble.

Another demolished target was a two-storey house of a civilian Druze couple. The man and his wife were among the 12 injured.

The PFLP conceded one fighter killed and two wounded. A communiqué identified the dead man as Ahmad Moghrabi.

The DFLP conceded one of its commandos killed and four others wounded.

"We shall retaliate to this terrorist Israeli raid by escalated guerrilla warfare in the West Bank and South Lebanon. Violence is the only language the Israeli enemy understands," a DFLP communiqué said.

Police had earlier said a three-storey building used as a command post by Fatah-urising, a breakaway faction from Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat's mainstream Fatah group, was devastated by several rocket hits in Baysour.

The raid came a day after a bomb planted in a garbage bin went off in downtown Tel Aviv, injuring one woman. Force 17, a security branch of the PLO, claimed responsibility for that bombing.

8 Civil Guards killed in Madrid bomb attack

MADRID (Agencies) — A powerful car bomb exploded as a bus full of Civil Guards passed by, killing eight guards and wounding 35 people in what appeared to be the most serious Basque attack, a spokesman for the guard said.

No-one immediately claimed responsibility, but the attack bore all the earmarks of ETA, the Basque separatist organisation, police said. The group has carried out numerous bombings and assassinations of military targets since 1968.

The car bomb, described by police as 50 kilograms of plastic explosives packed inside a van, exploded at 7:48 a.m. in Dominican Republic Square, located in a residential neighbourhood about five kilometres north of the centre of the Spanish capital.

Occupants of two escort vehicles escaped unhurt, but at least three passers-by were wounded. Doctors said 12 of the injured were in very serious condition.

The attack, the worst in Spain since 11 people died in a 1974 cafeteria bombing blamed on ETA, was a carbon copy of a car bomb explosion which killed five

Civil Guards last April. ETA claimed responsibility for the April blast and one police officer told Reuters Monday's attack may have been in retaliation for France's deportation of the group's alleged leader, Domingo 'Txomin' Iurbe Abesolo, to Gabon on Sunday.

Iurbe Abesolo had been living in France for a number of years as a political refugee. Several months ago he was picked up and jailed by French police for allegedly violating his refugee status by keeping arms in his home.

Eyewitnesses quoted by Reuters said Monday's blast blew off the bus roof, wrecked several other parked cars and damaged nearby buildings.

Shortly after the blast, a small group of extreme rightists appeared at the scene, chanting slogans against the government and demanding the release of military officers jailed for a 1981 abortive coup.

Police said the attack appeared to be the work of ETA's elusive Madrid commando, which has killed six senior military officers and planted two car bombs over the past year.

Andreotti begins bid to form government

ROME (R) — Italian Prime Minister-designate Giulio Andreotti began formal consultations on Monday to help him form a government despite total opposition by the Socialists to his efforts.

Mr. Andreotti, 67, a veteran Christian Democrat who has been prime minister five times, began talks with the parties after being given his highly difficult mandate last week by President Francesco Cossiga.

But there was no indication of any softening in the tough Socialist stance against his nomination and adamant refusal to join any government led by him.

Without the Socialists Mr. Andreotti will be unable to rebuild a five-party coalition of the type which resigned on June 27.

Rino Formica, Socialist floor leader in the chamber of deputies, said Mr. Andreotti should listen to reason and give up.



His Majesty King Hussein inaugurates the second annual conference of Jordanian expatriates on Monday (Photo by Youssef Al'Allen)

Expatriates review implementation of first conference recommendations

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Progress in implementing recommendations issued by the first Jordanian expatriates' conference held here in July 1985 was the focus of deliberations by the second conference which got underway Monday after its inauguration by His Majesty King Hussein.

During Monday's four-hour session Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan was elected as the conference's president. The conference nominated six deputy presidents and a six-member committee to formulate recommendations.

More than 400 expatriates from Arab, Western and international countries are taking part in the second conference whose initial aims are to bolster expatriate's links with their homeland and to encourage Jordanians living abroad to invest in agricultural, capital and industrial projects at home.

According to official estimates, one fourth of Jordan's almost 3.5 million citizens live abroad. The figure includes workers, and their family members as well as students.

Representatives of Jordanian expatriate communities in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Denmark and West Germany said they had fulfilled their role in realising the first meeting's calls for establishing committees to supervise issues related to coordination with Jordan in

culture, economy, industry, housing, social security and manpower planning and expatriate councils and clubs.

Interesting suggestions and investment projects were revealed by Mukaram Qumsiah and Hussein Al Dasouki, Jordanian expatriates living in Kuwait and Taiwan respectively.

Mr. Qumsiah announced the establishment of a joint Jordanian-Kuwaiti holding company with a paid-up capital of JD 25 million and said that any Jordanian can buy shares in the project.

Mr. Dasouki suggested the establishment of a company for children's wear, an agricultural project for growing ginger and a plant for producing dry powdered milk.

Expatriates from Britain, Dubai and Chile joined Mr. Dasouki in unleashing heavy criticism about Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline. Alia's sales policy and the "obvious discrimination" in granting discounts on air fares were the major targets of attack.

Tawfik Farhan Halasah who lives in Santiago, Chile, since 40 years, said Alia should operate flights to the Chilean capital since there are over 400,000 Jordanians living there.

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Mohammad Hamdan named to head Yarmouk

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Council of Higher Education recommended to His Majesty King Hussein on Monday that Dr. Mohammad Ahmad Hamdan be appointed president of Yarmouk University as of Monday in succession to Dr. Adnan Badran who tendered his resignation to the council last week.

Dr. Hamdan is currently holding the post of dean of the Faculty of Science at the University of Jordan.

The council in a meeting on Monday decided that Mu'ta University's headquarters be sited at the present location of the university and one of the academic faculties also be established there. The council also decided that another academic faculty be established in Rabba, a third in

Tafleh, a fourth in Ma'an and a fifth in Aqaba.

The council further decided that the Karak Community college could temporarily serve as a place for teaching Mu'ta students for one year until buildings of the faculties of arts and humanitarian sciences and law and administration are completed.

The council discussed the establishment of a national university to be located in Zarqa Governorate and came up with the following observations:

The proposed university should be a public shareholding company with at least 60 per cent of its shares owned by banking, financial, industrial and commercial institutions, in addition to higher education

institutions. The maximum number of shares that could be owned by a single organisation should be limited to 10,000.

The university's capital should be around JD 10 million, subject to findings of a feasibility study.

The council also decided that study at a proposed university of science and technology start in September 1986. The university, which is proposed to be set up at the permanent site of Yarmouk University, will initially accept 2,500 students in the first year.

Although no president for the new university has been named, Dr. Kamel Al Ajlouni, former minister of health and director of the University of Jordan Hospital, is one of the strongest candidates for the post.

Inward remittances rise in first quarter of 1986

AMMAN (AP) — Income sent home by Jordanian expatriates, a crucial element in the national economy, rose slightly in the first four months of 1986, the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) said Monday, despite fears of a long-term decline.

The increase could be due in part to the decline of interest rates in the United States, making Jordanian investments more attractive, said Adeb Haddad, head of the bank's economic research department.

He said a lesser reason could be the return of workers who had lost jobs in the depressed economies of the Gulf and were bringing home their savings.

Reported remittances in the January-April period were JD 136 million, compared with JD 130 million for the same period last year.

Most economists estimate that actual remittances are 50 to 100 per cent higher than the official figures, which are based on reports from banks.

Roughly 40 per cent of Jordan's labour force works outside the country, predominantly in the Gulf states. The remittances sent back last year, by official count, were 22 per cent of the gross national product.

Concern about remittances has grown as the price of oil has fallen and Gulf states have begun to send home foreign workers, although no mass return has materialised in Jordan.

Remittances last year, however, fell to JD 402.9 million from 1984's level of JD 475 million.

The Jordan Times' new telephone numbers: 667171-6 and 670141-4

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U.S.-Israeli ties marred by probe into smuggling of bomb technology

By Christopher Hanson
Reuter

WASHINGTON — U.S.-Israeli ties have been marred recently by American law enforcement agents publicly airing accusations that would have been made quietly through official channels in the past.

The most recent disclosure last week was that Washington was investigating charges that Israel had smuggled out technology for cluster bombs — devastating weapons that rain explosive projectiles over a wide area, killing indiscriminately.

The move came on the heels of other smuggling allegations and a highly embarrassing scandal in which civilian U.S. Navy intelligence analyst Jonathan Pollard admitted spying for Tel Aviv.

The cluster bomb case flared up just as bad feelings caused by the Pollard affair were subsiding.

U.S. diplomats say privately that, until recently, such affairs would have been handled more discreetly. Never before, they say, have U.S.-Israeli rows of this sort been publicised with such fanfare and at such cost to good relations.

Administration officials insist U.S. support for Israel remains high. Israel is Washington's strongest Middle East ally, shares much intelligence with the United States and received an estimated \$3 billion in aid over the past year.

Leaks about investigations into Israel's U.S. operations have come mainly from middle-level law enforcement officials who say the law must be obeyed even by close allies.

NEWS ANALYSIS

U.S. officials, who asked not to be identified, told reporters last week that customs agents suspected Israel had shipped cluster bomb equipment from 12 American firms under export licences which, they said, "involved creative writing" and apparently concealed the true purpose of the purchases.

Israel, insisting its purchases were legal, said the disclosure could "overcloud the good relations prevailing between the United States and Israel."

Retired Israeli Chief of Staff Rafael Eitan complained: "The Americans could have

approached us quietly and discreetly."

Israel's ambassador in Washington, Meir Rosenfeld, said bitterly in a television interview that U.S. officials had promised him the investigation would remain confidential.

He said certain U.S. officials were working to undermine American ties with Israel, using the press as a tool. He described the cluster bomb case as only the latest in a series.

U.S. law enforcement authorities told reporters recently they were investigating allegations that American firms illegally shipped barrels for tank cannons to Israel, which denied any wrongdoing.

Last December customs agents raided the premises of several military contractors who were suspected of illegally exporting advanced battle tank armour technology to Israel.

An investigation ultimately found no Israeli misconduct, but the raid was leaked to the press before Israel was notified.

A U.S. exporter was indicted in 1985 for sending to Israel 810 kryptons, switches that can be used to trigger nuclear bombs. Israel said they were for non-nuclear purposes.

A retired Israeli general was among 17 people indicted in New York last April for conspiring to sell more than \$2 billion in U.S.-made weapons, including jet fighters, to Iran.

Israel denied involvement with the general. Pollard, the U.S. Navy analyst, pleaded guilty last month to

spying for Israel. He was arrested attempting to gain sanctuary in the Israeli embassy in Washington last November.

Israel says the operation was an isolated case, launched without official permission by a rogue unit. But former U.S. Intelligence Middle East specialists told Reuters that Israeli spying in the United States had been extensive over the years.

Despite outwardly warm ties, there had long been a raw edge of suspicion between the United States and Israel, the specialists said.

Israel's interests did not always coincide with America's and the Israelis were intent on bolstering their defences even at the risk of antagonising their powerful patron.

One former intelligence officer said the United States was second only to Arab states as an intelligence target.

The Israelis were anxious to learn of any proposed tilt of U.S. policy towards Arab countries, he said, and their agents worked secretly to acquire the latest U.S. defence technology.

Such operations were an open secret over the years. But many State Department and Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) officials, sympathetic to Israel, advocated turning a blind eye, one retired CIA officer told Reuters.

The CIA suspects Israeli agents stole uranium for Israeli nuclear weapons from a Pennsylvania plant in 1968, he said.

But those suspicions were kept quiet for years and never flared into a serious U.S.-Israeli dispute.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mubarak to visit France

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak is expected to visit France in the autumn following delivery of an invitation from President Francois Mitterrand, French embassy officials said Monday. Mr. Mitterrand and Mr. Mubarak, reported to have established a close working relationship, last met when the French leader spent Christmas holidays in Egypt last December. A visit by Mr. Mubarak to Paris three months earlier marked their 11th official meeting. French Ambassador Pierre Hunt delivered an invitation to the president in Alexandria Sunday but no dates have yet been fixed, the officials said.

Benjedid recovering after surgery

BRUSSELS (R) — Algerian President Chadli Benjedid is recovering well after an operation here for a slipped disc, an Algerian embassy spokesman said Monday. He said it was not known when Mr. Benjedid, operated on last week, would be able to leave Brussels' Erasmus Hospital and return home. Belgian King Baudoin and Queen Fabiola Sunday paid Mr. Benjedid a half-hour bedside visit, a palace spokesman said.

Many Bangladeshis cancel Haj

DHAKA (R) — Economic hardship has forced many Muslims in Bangladesh to postpone plans to make the pilgrimage to Mecca this year, government officials said Monday. They said 10,000 people enrolled for this year's pilgrimage, or Haj, against 12,000 last year. Pilgrims each spend an average of \$2,400 during the Haj to pay for transportation, food and accommodation, they said. Nearly 90 per cent of Bangladesh's 100 million population is Muslim.

Sudan urged to unify Arab ranks

KHARTOUM (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has called on Sudan to launch an initiative to unify Arab ranks, the Sudan News Agency (SUNA) reported. Mr. Arafat made the appeal during talks with Sudanese Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi. SUNA quoted Mr. Mahdi as saying that Mr. Arafat, Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman, said Sudan was capable of undertaking a task since it enjoyed good ties with all Arab states. Arab countries have failed twice since the U.S. raid on Libya on April 15 to convene an Arab summit.

Cypriot minorities elect leaders

NICOSIA (R) — Three Cypriot minorities have elected leaders to sit in the island's House of Representatives (parliament), election officials said Monday. The 1,501 registered Armenian voters elected Aram Kalaidjian with 65 per cent in Sunday's poll. Maronite John Mavrides was newly elected with 45 per cent of 2,164 votes and incumbent Latin leader Felix Cipilli was returned unopposed for his 500-strong community. Minority leaders speak only on community affairs in the 56-seat house and have no voting rights unless also elected in a full parliamentary poll.

Egypt holds 32 on sabotage charges

CAIRO (R) — The Egyptian state security prosecutor, has remanded in custody 32 alleged Muslim fundamentalists, on sabotage charges, police sources have said. President Hosni Mubarak said earlier the detainees were members of the outlawed Jihad (holy war) Muslim group and that the arrests were made under emergency measures in force since Jihad gunmen killed President Anwar Sadat in 1981. The 32, including four army conscripts, were held on charges of setting fire to two Cairo theatres and four video rental shops over the past three months.

Israel concerned over Saudi subs

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel has expressed concern to The Netherlands over its potential sale to Saudi Arabia of six submarines, an Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman said Monday. He said Israel's position was outlined to the Dutch ambassador in Tel Aviv and by Israel's envoy in The Hague. Israeli officials believe Saudi Arabia is seeking to purchase the vessels, to be built in Dutch shipyards, but The Netherlands is still considering the sale whose total value would be about \$1 billion, the spokesman said. Israel opposes the sale because it believes arming Saudi Arabia will increase the regional arms race and hamper peace prospects for the Middle East, the spokesman said.

Tehran denies arms deal with France

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Mehdi Navab, head of Iran's Economic Investment Organisation, has denied speculation that Tehran has agreed to buy weapons from France in return for Paris repaying a \$1 billion loan frozen in 1979, Iran's official news agency reported Monday.

The Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), monitored in Nicosia, quoted Mr. Navab as saying at a news conference in Tehran Sunday that he was not optimistic that the dispute over the loan made by the late Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi would be settled "in the near future."

Mr. Navab stressed that Iran's Revolutionary Islamic government insisted that France repay the loan. It was frozen by the French after the Shah was ousted in Iran's 1979 revolution.

The loan was made by the monarch to France's Eurodif Company for investment in a uranium fuel processing project.

Mr. Navab's reported comments contradicted optimistic statements by French officials recently that negotiations over the loan were being held in "a new climate" as France sought to normalise its relations with Iran.

Top-level meetings to resolve the long-standing dispute have been held in Paris and Tehran in recent weeks.

Mr. Navab stressed that the Iranians have rejected French proposals to repay the loan, plus interest, with goods.

He was quoted as saying that the French have attempted to "hinder arbitration" to settle the dispute. But he did not elaborate.

Repayment of the loan of Tehran's conditions for restoring

relations with Paris that were badly strained when the Shah was toppled. They worsened when the Iran-Iraq war broke out in 1980.

Iran's war-ravaged economy has been badly hit by plunging oil prices this year.

French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac has given priority to normalising relations with Iran since his conservative government came to power three months ago.

Iran has also demanded France halt arms shipments to Iraq, and crack down on Iranian dissidents based in France.

These are similar demands made by Shi'ite Muslim extremists who have kidnapped nine Frenchmen in Lebanon in the last 18 months.

Iranian leaders have denied they control the kidnappers. But the extremists are considered pro-Iranian and loyal to Iran's revolutionary patriarch, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Two French hostages, television correspondent Philippe Rochot and cameraman George Hanny, were released on June 21, two weeks after Iranian dissident leader Massoud Rajavi quit his base near Paris, apparently under French pressure, and moved to Iraq.

A week later, Iran freed Air France's Tehran director, Jean-Yves Albertini, who had been convicted of inciting corruption and debauchery. He was jailed in July last year.

It was not known whether Tehran's allegations the French are hindering settlement of the loan dispute will affect the fate of the seven other missing Frenchmen.

A respected Beirut daily, An Nahar, reported last week that another French hostage would be freed shortly. But so far no one has been released.

Israelis round up Lebanese villagers after mine blast

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — Israeli forces rounded up and questioned the inhabitants of two villages in Israel's South Lebanon buffer zone after a mine blasted an Israeli tank, Lebanese security sources said Monday.

Reports from Tel Aviv said three Israeli soldiers were injured Sunday when a mine exploded under their tank and set it ablaze in Taibeh village, five kilometres from Israel.

Security sources in the South Lebanese capital of Sidon said that immediately after the incident Israeli troops ringed and then stormed Taibeh and nearby Deir Al Siryan village.

"They gathered the inhabitants in the public square and questioned them for three hours," one source said. There were no reports of arrests.

In Beirut, a spokesman for the Shi'ite Muslim Amal militia said it had planted the mine. He said the tank crew was killed and another Israeli vehicle had been destroyed by a second mine as it tried to tow off the tank.

Israel left behind hundreds of soldiers and plainclothes agents to help Lebanese militia allies patrol the security strip after most Israeli occupation forces left Lebanon last summer.

Lebanese resistance fighters launch attacks on the Israelis and the militiamen almost daily.

Last week two Israeli soldiers and four Arab commandos were killed in South Lebanon in a gun battle a few hundred metres from the border.

Alfonsin to visit S. Arabia

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — President Raul Alfonsin of Argentina will pay an official visit to Saudi Arabia starting July 19, the Saudi Royal Court announced Monday.

The announcement, distributed by the official Saudi Press Agency, said the visit was at the invitation of King Fahd and will last for three days.

5 dead, 9 hurt in Cairo gas pipe fire

CAIRO (AP) — Five people were killed and at least nine injured when a natural gas pipe in a southern Cairo suburb burst on Sunday night, an Interior Ministry statement said Monday.

Huge orange flames lit up the sky for four hours in the industrial suburb of Ma'asara on Cairo's southern outskirts before fire

trucks extinguished the blaze. About 30 fire trucks succeeded in keeping the fire away from a military munitions factory across the street.

At least 10 houses were badly damaged before technicians switched off the main gas pipe that supplies the area. Natural gas was introduced in this suburb two years ago.

Kuwait suicide bomber was university professor

KUWAIT (AP) — The suicidal driver who tried to kill the Emir of Kuwait last summer was identified as a Kuwait University associate professor, the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) reported Sunday.

Citing unidentified sources close to Kuwait's prosecutor general, the agency said the driver was Abdul Hussein Abdul Sahab Hussein, an Iraqi Shi'ite Muslim fundamentalist.

He was one of seven saboteurs who planned the suicide attack in which bomb-rigged car was rammed into the motorcade of the ruler of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, in May last year.

Sheikh Jaber survived with facial cuts, and Hussein perished in his incinerated car.

An inquest by the prosecutor general led to the recent arrest of one of the saboteur suspects who later identified their henchmen, according to the agency.

Race quota issue splits U.S. Jews

By Walter Ruby
Jerusalem Post

NEW YORK — Jewish leaders were sharply divided in their reactions to two supreme court "affirmative action" decisions announced last week which upheld the use of preferential hiring and promotion for racial minorities.

The court said the preferential hiring by the New York Street Metal Workers' Union and by Cleveland Firefighters was legal.

Jewish leaders who have strongly opposed the use of racial quotas in the past, such as Morris Abram, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish

Organisations, and Nathan Perlmutter, national director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL), said that the supreme court's decisions represented a defeat for the principle of a colour blind society.

But spokesmen for the American Jewish Committee and American Jewish Congress, which had filed "friends of the court" briefs on behalf of black and Hispanic job applicants in New York (but not in the Cleveland Firefighters' case), praised the court's decision to allow racial preferences to compensate for past "egregious" discrimination against minorities by the union.

The issue of affirmative action has long bedevilled black-Jewish

relations. Black organisations charge bitterly that some Jewish groups have turned their backs on their former allies in the civil rights movement by opposing affirmative action programmes to help blacks and other minorities compensate for past discrimination and social and educational disadvantages.

The ADL and other Jewish groups have responded that they support affirmative action, when it is defined as programmes to help train and educate disadvantaged individuals.

Other Jewish groups hailed the decision. Marc Pearl, the legal affairs director of the American Jewish Congress, said that his organisation was "pleased."

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

17:00 — Koran
17:20 — Cartoons
17:30 — Children programmes
18:10 — Disneyland
19:00 — Computer
19:15 — Religious programme
19:35 — Tomorrow's programme
20:00 — News programme
20:40 — News in Arabic
21:00 — Local programme
21:35 — Varieties programme
22:00 — News Summary in Arabic
22:10 — Varieties programme

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 — Klokou a Musique
18:30 — La vallee des peupliers
19:00 — News in French
19:15 — French varieties
19:30 — News in Hebrew
19:45 — Was all the training in vain
20:00 — News in Arabic
20:10 — An interview with Mr. Rashed Al Shawwa
20:50 — Music Box
21:35 — Alfred Hitchcock
22:00 — News in English
22:20 — The Equilizer

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM

& partly on 95.60 KHz. SW 77411-19

PROGRAMME ONE

07:00 — Light Music
07:30 — News Desk
08:00 — Morning Show
18:00 — News Summary
18:05 — Morning Show Cont.
11:00 — Oriental Foods
11:15 — Pop Session Cont.
11:30 — Country Music
12:00 — News Summary
12:05 — Pop Session Cont.
13:00 — News Summary
13:05 — Pop Session Cont.
14:00 — News Bulletin
14:10 — Men from the Ministry
15:00 — Concert Hour
16:00 — News Summary
16:05 — Science Report
17:30 — Pop Session
18:00 — News Summary
18:05 — Top Twenty
19:00 — News Bulletin
19:30 — Date with a Star
20:00 — Evening Show
21:00 — News Summary
21:05 — Evening Show Cont.
21:55 — News Summary

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz.

PROGRAMME ONE

07:00 David Munnor 07:30 Pled Piper
07:45 Reflections 07:50 Financial News
08:00 World News 08:30 24 Hours
News Summary 08:30 News Ideas 08:40
Book Choice 08:45 The World Today
09:00 Newsline 09:30 Commentpoint
10:00 World News 10:30 24 Hours
News Summary 10:30 Putting Politics
in Its Place 10:45 In the Cage 11:00 World
News 11:00 Reflections 11:15 James
Talks 11:30 Aspects of Life 12:00 World
News 12:00 British Press Review 12:15
The World Today 12:30 Financial
News Look Ahead 12:45 Pled Piper
13:00 News Summary Windows on the
Universe 13:30 The Mystery of the Blue
Train 14:00 World News 14:00 News
about Britain 14:15 Watgate 14:25 A
Letter from Scotland 14:30 Journey
through Latin America 15:00 Radio
Newsworld 15:15 Inner Space 15:35
Personal Story 15:45 Sports Round-up
16:00 World News 16:00 24 Hours
News Summary 16:30 In the Cage 16:45
Recording of the Week 17:00 Outlook
17:45 Pled Piper 18:00 Radio Newsworld
18:15 A Jolly Good Radio 18:30 The
Random Jottings of Hings and Brackett
19:10 World News 19:10 Commentary
19:15 Outlook 19:45 The World Today
20:00 World News 20:00 A Letter from
Scotland 20:15 Meridian 20:45 Sports
Round-up 21:00 Newsline 21:30 By
Judith 21:40 The Evening World 22:00
News Summary 23:00 World News
23:00 24 Hours News Summary 23:30
Richard Rodney Bennett Premiere
24:00 News Summary On the Box

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740,
11925 and 13210 KHz.

PROGRAMME ONE

07:00 News. Informal Presentation of
Popular Music with Feature Reports.
Interviews. Answers to Listeners' Questions. Science Reports. Sports
News at 30 minutes past the hour. 18:00
News 18:10 Newsline 18:30 Music USA
19:00 News 19:10 Focus 19:30 Special
English News & Features 20:00 News
20:10 Newsline 20:30 Magazine Show
21:00 News 21:10 Focus 21:30 Special
English News & Features 22:00 News
22:10 Newsline 22:30 Music USA 23:00
News & Editorial 23:15 Music USA Jazz
24:00 News 24:10 World Report

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITION

* A French exhibition entitled "La Mode, les modes, les robes" at the French Cultural Centre (until July 24).

NEWS FILM

* The ABC news at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre.

CINEMA

* Cinema for children "On va-tu Banlieue" at 10:00 a.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

JERASH FESTIVAL

South Theatre
7:00-8:30 p.m. Spanish Flamenco Group
9:30-11:30 p.m. The D.C. Contemporary Dance theatre "U.S.A." Arrives
7:00-8:30 p.m. Indonesian troupe "Indonesica"
9:00-10:00 p.m. Arabic Music Group
8:00-9:00 p.m. Jabel Al Sahab "Jordan"
Forum
6:30-7:15 p.m. The Armed Forces Band
8:00-9:00 Theatre Abattir "France"

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre 644371
American Centre Library 641520
British Council 636147-8
French Cultural Centre 637009
Goethe Institute 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre 639777
Hayat Arts Centre 645195
Hussein Youth Club 647181/86
Y.W.C.A. 641793
Ammann Municipal Library 637111
University of Jordan Library 833553

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th

TO 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qal'a (Cliffside Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.

Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.

Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.

Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2:00 p.m.

United Automobile Club. Jabel Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261, 815410.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Lujaybi, Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hinnia, Tel. 661757.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abadi, Tel. 623541.

Orthodox Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman, Tel. 678906.

Ammann Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751.

Ammann International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Simeisim, Tel. 677534.

Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabel Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Sogit), Tel. 811295.

Bahayee Congregation (International, Inter-denominational) meets in the Church of the Redeemer, Jabel Amman, Tel. 606974.

PRAYER TIMES

04:00 — Fajr
05:39 — Sunrise
16:22 — Asr
19:43 — Maghrib
21:22 — Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Airia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 33200-3, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

09:15 — Agaba (RJ)
10:15 — Kuwait (RJ)
10:45 — Jeddah (RJ)
11:15 — Cairo (RJ)
10:55 — Doha (RJ)
11:00 — Damascus (RJ)
11:00 — Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:15 — Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
11:30 — Abu Dhabi (RJ)
12:30 — Moscow (RJ)
12:35 — Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Doha (RJ)
14:05 — Baghdad (RJ)
14:30 — Beirut (RJ)
14:35 — Kuwait (RJ)
14:40 — Riyadh (RJ)
15:30 — New York, Vienna (RJ)
15:30 — Athens (RJ)
15:35 — Paris, Brussels (RJ)
15:40 — Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
15:50 — Cairo (RJ)
16:30 — Istanbul (RJ)
16:30 — Zurich, Larnaca (RJ)
16:35 — Rome, Damascus (RJ)
16:40 — Trip

Home news

King: Dialogue and a sense of identity are the means to confront challenges

Following is the full text of His Majesty King Hussein's opening address to the Second Jordanian Expatriates' Conference which started its deliberations in Amman Monday.

My Fellow Brethren,

It is indeed a special occasion, one that we live this time of every year when such a large gathering takes place between the resident and the expatriate, the official and the citizen, the trader and the worker, the employee and the employer. A day when the large and united family sits together in an atmosphere of friendliness and clarity, reviewing their affairs and problems and discussing their burdens as well as their interests.

Country, individuals and institutions all together. A day when Amman prides itself in a group of its struggling sons and the mother homeland opens its arms to its loyal children. A day when hearts and souls intermingle, ideas and memories become complete. A day I meet with you my dear brethren, in your country, sons, honest in your loyalty. I welcome you amongst your people and in your homes and in your country.

My Fellow Brethren,

We meet today for the second time within the framework of an annual expatriates' conference. We have established this event with success in view of last year's conference with your fellow brethren, some of whom were officials and others representative of the private sector, and we discussed several important issues chosen carefully to fulfil the aim of this meeting. You also studied our economic development, Jordan's growth experience, the political challenges in which we live, the situation of the labour market as well as the interests of Jordanian expatriates and their individual and group suggestions. You have reached through open and objective research, overall decisions and recommendations

that come as a result of your sense of obligation and your care to actively share in our noble and constructive journey.

The recommendations that resulted from our first meeting were objective and direct in helping out the government institutions in deciphering your needs and interests. The government has tried its utmost during the last year to take the proper measures to implement what concerns you from provisions and offer the necessary base for security most needed by expatriates, any expatriate. Therefore services became available as in housing, social security, higher learning and others. Relations improved between Jordan and its brothers abroad through visits, meetings and exchange of information.

And here you meet to evaluate what has been done in procedures and to exchange opinions over what can be done on the national level, depending on the expatriates needs themselves. This merely takes place in the shade of several facts which you are undoubtedly aware of. Perhaps the most important two are:

Firstly, the continuous deterioration in regional economies with all that it entails from challenges and problems, have reflected on the labour market whereby there is a shrinking in the labour movement heading to Arab nations of the GCC as a result of decreasing oil returns and a slower growth rate. A situation that has prompted the government to initiate communications with the governments of Arab countries in order to cut down on such a process on the one hand, and co-operate in facing the



His Majesty King Hussein Monday meets with conference for Jordanians living abroad (Petra photo)

consequences on the other. The Jordanian expatriates have had a constructive role in all of this through their hard and serious efforts and their concern for the safety and stability of their host countries, which have insured the continuity of work for a majority of Jordanian workers.

You have always been the finest of ambassadors to your host countries: wherever you were you gave your best. Through your hard work, experience and seriousness, you have contributed to the path of growth of brotherly countries, and through all of that you have earned the respect and appreciation of your host countries. And I do not doubt for a moment that your contribution will continue in the same way it

would have in your own country. Your high level of performance and your respect for your host countries are qualities that will remain with you. You will remain a source of respect as you have always been a source of strength and pride.

Secondly, the fact that your second conference is being held at a time when your country has just launched its third 5-year economic development plan. This plan aims, as did its predecessors, to push forward the wheel of economic growth and social development, through the mobilisation of available foreign and domestic resources. The end results, we hope, would be a rise in our national income, the creation of tens of thousands of new job

opportunities, and the consolidation of Jordan's status and economic role in the region.

I hasten to add that since the beginning, we have consistently emphasised the role of the private sector in contributing towards social and economic development within the framework of our overall economic policy. Furthermore, we have always considered individual initiatives to be one of the most important factors in the management of our national economy. After all, participation in large-scale projects is a means of mobilising resources, be they private or public, and of sharing the profits and bearing the responsibilities. In this respect, we will continue to hold on to our solid objectives of

providing shelter and security for private capital, be it Jordanian, Arab or foreign, and of offering it tax and investment incentives as well as basic required services.

Needless to say, the regional economic recession has had a negative impact on economic development in Jordan and it is thus our duty to limit this impact, reduce its effects, and open new horizons before every sincere effort and each constructive initiative. But the present economic cycle is undoubtedly coming to an end, to be followed by a period of recovery. It is at that point that we have to adapt ourselves to these changes and consolidate the numerous gains and achievements that have taken place over the long and hard years that have passed. Thereafter we will prepare ourselves for a new beginning characterised by a collective effort to transcend this phase, and strengthen Jordan's pioneering experiment in modernisation and development. This experiment has proven its success and the strength of its foundations, and has survived with the help of God and our sound planning as well as with the co-operation of both the private and public sectors in the face of the challenges that this region was facing. We will, God willing, continue to seek our noble objectives with the utmost confidence.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Whereas the institutionalisation of the bond between the homeland and its expatriates is in its infant stage, the bond between ourselves and our brethren who are under threat of expatriation under occupation has been solid since the onset of occupation. The open-bridges policy that we have adopted has secured this organic bond that is necessary for the steadfastness of our brethren in the face of the plans to uproot them and expend at their expense. We will continue to work according to this policy out of awareness of the nature of the silent battle that Jordan is fighting alongside the Palestinian people for the preservation of the land and its Arab identity. And irrespective of the political differences in positions and objectives between ourselves and the various leaderships of the PLO, our open-bridges policy and the support of our brethren's steadfastness will remain divorced from these differences. We will continue to live up to our duties towards our brethren, with persistence and awareness, as a fulfilment of our noble mission and for our beloved Jerusalem and our Arab Nation.

It is natural that the open-bridges policy would be subject to firm controls that are in harmony with the national position in respect to the Arab Israeli conflict. It should also be subject to changeable controls as they are affected by the developments due to the continuation of occupation, and

the policies and aggressive programmes that arise from occupation. This dictates us to take necessary measures to keep the bridges as veins that pump life and Arabism into our people instead of becoming a door through which the steadfastness is filtered or an outlet which the evils of our enemies might penetrate. When we decide any measure in this respect our decision is based on the intuition of national interest irrespective of the wishes of individuals or groups that view events in the spectrum of their immediate interests, or judge them on the basis of their limited organisational vision. The allegations of an anomalous group that tolerates the occupation after it made out of it a source of profit and livelihood would not deter us from continuing on with this policy. The support of our steadfastness that you form part of its components would remain the basis on which we build our national efforts for the sake of liberating the land and the people.

Brothers and Sisters, If we view this nationalist occasion as a guiding light in our stride, it is because it symbolises the value of "our bonds" which God Almighty advised his prophet (may God's prayer and peace be upon him) with. Our desire to revive "the bonds" at the level of

the Arab family is the light that leads us through the darkness of our disagreements and dispersion. The mission that we inherited and which we earned is clearly defined with its noble goals, and we will remain committed to it by the help of God Almighty. We will work in cooperation with the Arab leaders to continue the dialogue, which is considered an aspect of this "bond" for the sake of obliterating the reasons that lead to the encampment of Arab harmony. This, we hope, will unite the forces of the fragmented and neutralised nation and resurrect life in Arab solidarity as a pragmatic standard of unified Arab effort and positions with regards the dangers and challenges that face our nation. Thus our nation can regain its place and become effective in this world, an end that we cannot work without or away from its effects.

Brothers and Sisters, Jordan which is proud of its hard-working sons welcomes you, blesses you meeting and wishes you success in your deliberations. I am confident that you will work towards opening new horizons before this noble gathering, and every meeting is built on its predecessor. Let this experiment become a "bond" and a solid one at that, if God will. God be with you.



Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaleel Al Haj Hassan (centre) addresses participants attending the Second Jordanian Expatriates' Conference (above). The opening of the conference was held in the parliament building on Monday (below) — Petra photos.



NEWS IN BRIEF

New ACOR building to open Thursday

AMMAN (J.T.) — Under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan the new premises of the American Centre for Oriental Research (ACOR) will be opened Thursday. The new premises, on the University of Jordan Road are owned by ACOR and were built with money raised to replace the rented building in Amman's Sixth Circle where the centre has been operating since 1977.

Arab-Americans visit Yarmouk

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation representing the Arab community in the United States Monday paid a visit to Yarmouk University where they were received by the university's vice-president, Dr. Marwan Kamal, who briefed them on the university's establishment, objectives and future plans. The delegation watched a documentary on the university and toured the various sections of the campus.

Arab journalists meet GFJW president

AMMAN (Petra) — A number of Arab journalists currently on a visit to Jordan to cover the Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts Monday visited the General Federation of Jordanian Women where they heard a briefing by the federation's president, Mrs. Haifa Al Bashir on the GFJW's establishment and goals. Mrs. Bashir said that one of the federation's main objectives is to develop working women's capabilities and skills in all fields in order to strengthen their role in society.

Ministry hosts lunch for Algerian envoy

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministry of Foreign Affairs Under Secretary Tayseer Touqan Sunday hosted a luncheon party on behalf of Foreign Minister Taher Masri in honour of Algerian Ambassador to Jordan Mubarak Al Jadiri on the occasion of the envoy ending his term in Jordan. Mr. Touqan and Mr. Jadiri exchanged speeches in which they praised the strong relations between Jordan and Algeria. The two officials also stressed their respective governments' interests in strengthening bilateral cooperation. The party was attended by the dean of the diplomatic corps and a number of Arab ambassadors in Amman.

AFM director to discuss stock markets

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Financial Market (AFM) Director Hashem Al Sabbagh has left for France to take part in the 11th international conference on stock markets which will open today. Participants in the five-day conference will discuss a number of topics related to primary and secondary markets, the integration of financial activities and related problems. Dr. Sabbagh will present a working paper on the latest developments in financial markets.

Hmoud meets local councils, municipal heads in Madaba

MADABA (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Marwan Al Hmoud said Monday that his ministry is trying to solve local council's problems by cooperating with municipalities in finding practical solutions. Addressing mayors and members of municipal councils in Madaba, Mr. Hmoud said that interaction between council members and the public and mobilising all available resources should be the focus of attention of all municipal councils to ensure the peoples' participation.

The minister stressed the necessity on the part of municipal councils to adhere to plans of action to resolve any practical problems and he said this should be done with a team spirit. Mr. Hmoud stressed the public's role in developing local councils by adhering to organisational rules and setting financial obligations to the councils. To achieve this, Mr. Hmoud said that every council should work towards building confidence and introducing new channels of constructive dialogue with the public. Madaba Mayor Ahmad Outirsh reviewed the municipality's plans, which include the construction of a compound for government departments and the acquisition of land for constructing a public garden and a public library.

Jordan, Egypt agree to establish \$30m company for meat, fodder production

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Egypt have reached agreement on establishing a \$30 million company for the production of lean meat in an effort to reduce both countries' dependence on imports and to increase local meat production.

Agreement was reached in talks between teams from the two sides in Cairo over the past week, according to Dr. Abdul Ghani Al Nahar from the Ministry of Agriculture, who led Jordan's team to the talks with Egyptian officials. He said that the two sides have decided to carry out a stock breeding project to raise 300,000

head of sheep annually with the sheep being bought locally or imported from other countries.

This project will be launched on a 30,000 dunum location near Dasi in southern Jordan, which is to be leased and grown with fodder to make available sufficient animal feed for the sheep, he said. In the same area, he added, there will be another project for raising goats at the rate of 100,000 heads annually.

He said that in the future the project will also be processing fodder at the rate of 72,000 tonnes annually in order to supply farm animals in Jordan and Egypt. The

processing plant will be located in Suez, he continued.

Fattening calves

He also said that the two sides agreed to launch a project to fatten calves at the rate of 20,000 head per annum on an area of 20,000 dunums which is to be leased in Egypt.

According to Dr. Nahar, the projected company will be 50 per cent owned by a holding company established by the Higher Jordanian-Egyptian Committee at its last meeting in Amman.

Bahraini trade minister arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — Bahraini Minister of Trade and Agriculture Habib Ahmad Qassem Monday arrived in Amman at the head of a Bahraini delegation on a four-day official visit to Jordan. During their stay, the minister and the delegation will hold talks with Jordanian officials on trade and bilateral relations.

In an arrival statement he made to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Mr. Qassem praised the bilateral relations between Jordan and his country saying that the foundation for strong ties had been laid by His Majesty King Hussein and the Emir of Bahrain Sheikh Issa Ibn Salman Al Khalifa.

Mr. Qassem went on to say that his visit to Jordan aims at bolstering economic, agricultural and commercial relations between the two countries within the framework of a bilateral agreement.

The Bahraini minister praised Jordan's expertise in the economic, commercial and agricultural areas and pointed out that Jordanian products are selling well in Bahraini markets and that they are competitive with other imported products.

Mr. Qassem also said that he and Jordanian officials will discuss means of setting up joint projects and exploring areas of investment.

The Bahraini minister and the accompanying delegation were received upon arrival by Minister of Supply, Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher and Mr. Abdul Aziz Al Hussein, the Bahraini ambassador to Jordan.

Muasher meets Qassem

Official talks between the Bahraini delegation, headed by Mr. Qassem, and the Jordanian delegation, headed by Dr. Muasher focused on means of developing and promoting commercial exchange and means for achieving cooperation in the economic field.

The two sides also discussed scopes of cooperation in other fields, particularly in agriculture, the exchange of expertise and training. Dr. Muasher then briefed the Bahraini delegation on Jordan's five-year development plan.

Jordan to buy 50,000 tonnes of Indian wheat

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan has agreed to purchase 50,000 tonnes of wheat from India at a cost of about \$5 million and the final purchase documents are expected to be signed soon, according to informed sources.

The sources could not give the exact price per tonne that Jordan would pay, but reports in the Indian media indicated that it was expected to be \$108 per tonne.

The agreement, which represents the largest ever single Jordanian purchase from India, came earlier this month when a representative of the government-run corporation for cereal exports visited Amman and held talks with officials from the Ministry of Supply, Industry and Trade.

The Jordanian purchase of Indian wheat is in line with an agreement reached between the two governments earlier this year, when a high-level Indian trade delegation, headed by the commerce ministry joint secretary, visited Jordan. Under the minutes of the talks the delegation had with the Ministry of Supply, Jordan agreed to boost its purchase of Indian products to \$30 million in 1986. The minutes of the meetings were later ratified by the full Cabinet.

India is the largest purchaser of Jordanian phosphates and fertilisers and the total Indian imports from Jordan amounted to \$130 million in 1985. The balance of trade in favour of the Kingdom ever since India initiated its purchase of Jordanian products, mainly rock phosphates, phosphoric acid and murate of potash.

In 1985, the total Indian exports to Jordan amounted to less than \$4 million, mainly in consumer products and specialties in spices and herbs.

The Indian government has submitted a list to Jordan to choose from for the Kingdom's purchases. The list includes leather products, hardware and building construction material,

foodstuffs and military software such as boots, uniforms, etc. etc.

The Jordanian agreement to increase its purchases from India by \$30 million this year was in response to an Indian move to boost imports of phosphates and by products by 20 per cent and phosphoric acid by 100 per cent. The increase in purchases from Jordan represents some \$25 to \$30 million annually for India.

It is expected that the total Indian purchase of Jordanian products this year would be made up of 1.2 million tonnes of rock phosphates, 385,000 tonnes of fertilisers, 360,000 tonnes of murate of potash and 20,000 tonnes of phosphoric acid.

With the agreed increase, the total Indian purchases from Jordan are expected to reach \$155 million to \$160 million this year. India has also offered to further boost imports from Jordan, provided the Kingdom "moves to reciprocate the measure at least partly," according to J.N. Renjen, joint secretary of the Indian Ministry of Trade and Commerce, who headed his country's delegation which visited Amman in February this year.

The Indian offer could be reciprocated by Jordan agreeing to set up joint ventures in either country, Mr. Renjen said in a February interview with the Jordan Times. Mentioned during his discussions in Amman was prospects for setting up a fertiliser plant in Jordan with Indian technological help. Mr. Renjen said.

A number of Indian trade delegations visited Jordan in the wake of the February agreement but no major deals were struck. However, there has been an overall increase in Jordanian imports from India this year.

India and Jordan signed a broad agreement on bilateral cooperation in 1976 and all subsequent protocols and accords on trade, economic relations and cultural ties were based on the 1976 accord. The accord was revived when Indian Minister of State for Trade and Commerce Khurshid Alam Khan visited Amman in late 1985.

British Aerospace

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FROM SUITABLY QUALIFIED AND EXPERIENCED PERSONNEL FOR THE FOLLOWING VACANCIES AT THE TECHNICAL STUDIES INSTITUTE OF THE ROYAL SAUDI AIR FORCE, DHAHRAN, KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHERS

CANDIDATES SHOULD POSSESS:-

A UNIVERSITY DEGREE WITH LANGUAGE OR LINGUISTICS AS A SUBJECT

AND

A TEACHING CERTIFICATE FROM A RECOGNISED INSTITUTION THREE YEARS EXPERIENCE OF TEACHING ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

MATHEMATICS/PHYSICS TEACHERS

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BSc DEGREE WITH MATHEMATICS AND PHYSICS

OR

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION DEGREE EMBRACING MATHEMATICS AND PHYSICS DISCIPLINES

THREE YEARS TEACHING EXPERIENCE

KNOWLEDGE OF ELECTRONICS WOULD BE AN ADVANTAGE

GOOD ABILITY IN WRITTEN AND SPOKEN ENGLISH ESSENTIAL

CONSIDERATION WILL ONLY BE GIVEN TO THOSE CANDIDATES WHO ARE FREE FROM ANY GOVERNMENT RESTRICTION ON TAKING UP ALTERNATIVE EMPLOYMENT AND A STATEMENT TO THIS EFFECT MUST BE INCLUDED IN EACH APPLICATION, WHICH, WITH FULL DETAILS OF QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED IN ENGLISH TO:



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PERSONNEL OFFICER RECRUITMENT
BRITISH AEROSPACE
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KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA.

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Jordan Press Foundation

University Road, P.O. Box 5710, Amman, Jordan

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Telegram: JORTIMES, Amman, Jordan

The Jordan Times is published daily except on public holidays

Subscription and advertising rates are available from the

Jordan Times advertising department

Dilemma of forgotten nations

A NUCLEAR war by intent or accident is suicidal for the nuclear powers themselves and quite catastrophic for the entire world. Total elimination of nuclear weapons from the face of the earth is one view appealing to many as a reasonable means to preclude such a catastrophic future event. A gradual reduction, limitation and elimination of all nuclear weapons by the year 2000, as proposed by Soviet leader Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, reflects such a view. This view is basically rooted in an earlier version of Soviet thinking on the arms issue in the 50s when the Soviets envisaged complete abolition of all armed forces and all types of armaments, creating a condition whereby the menace of war would be eliminated once and for all.

Complete abolition of all weapons — voluntary disarmament by all nations — appeared rather utopian and in the 60s and 70s the Soviets too veered round to the concept of nuclear arms control. However, the present Soviet leadership feels that it is time now to call a halt to the nuclear arms race, particularly the race into space and adopt disarmament measures instead of arms control ones to eliminate the danger of a nuclear war and ensure international security. Through a time-bound programme, Mr. Gorbachev envisions the abolition of all nuclear weapons and argues for constructively diverting the billions of dollars apportioned for the deadly arms race to tackle socio-economic problems, including those of developing countries: to combat hunger, disease and poverty and make safe the world for the coming generations.

On the other side of the spectrum, the U.S. is unwilling to abandon the theory of nuclear deterrence, the mutually assured destruction capability (MAD) which it believes has helped to maintain peace and security through the past several decades and remains the time-tested answer even today to get over the superpower nuclear dilemma. This is more so, argues the Reagan administration, because the Soviets can never be trusted as they are communists and any relaxation leading to lessening of nuclear deterrence in East-West relations would render the U.S. vulnerable to Soviet aggression. The U.S. further argues that the various disarmament proposals put forward by Mr. Gorbachev lack seriousness and are purported to sidetrack realistic arms control proposals, advanced by the United States. At the moment, the U.S. believes that its Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) will contribute to world peace and international security. It would enhance nuclear deterrence and by implication lessen the possibility of a nuclear war. In a recent report to the U.S. Congress the SDI director stated, "we seek to provide strategic defence options that would eliminate the threat posed by ballistic missiles, and thereby, support a better basis for deterring aggression; strengthen strategic stability; increase the security of the United States and our allies."

What is very strange with all strategic debates in the U.S. is that the protagonists of nuclear deterrence invariably always speak of the "security of the United States and our allies" but forget to include the security of a host of nations, not aligned to the U.S. or the Soviet Union. Whereas, when the Soviets speak of international security they do not forget to include the security of the tens of millions outside the East-West blocs who in any case would be also innocent victims in case the nuclear deterrence fails. Will the U.S. discuss this concern as another Soviet propaganda play to influence Third World nations?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Israeli threat persists

CLOSE observers of Middle East developments and of the Arab-Israeli conflict do not need more evidence to discern the fact that Israel has established its entree on Arab land through a campaign of terror, and has lasted so long through falsehoods, mischief and deceit. In order to carry out its Judaisation scheme Israel has continued to follow the path of deceit and continued to try to impose its hegemony on the whole region. This Israeli attitude and aggressive stand was pointed out clearly by King Hussein in his press conference in which he also warned of the danger of falling into the Zionist trap. At the same time King Hussein made it clear that Jordan will continue to support the steadfastness of the Palestinian people despite Israel's conspiracies and intrigues, and will try by every possible means to prevent the enemy from uprooting the Arab kinsmen from their homeland. King Hussein's statement was a clear evidence to the world public opinion that despite the long years of occupation rule, the Israelis have not been able to rest assured of the success of their conspiracy; and there can be no doubt about the fact that the confrontation is still on until right and justice are established.

Al Dustour: King reaffirms Jordan's stand

KING Hussein has been open and candid in his statements to the press conference on Saturday on the various issues that concern the Arab Nation in general and Jordan and the Palestinians in particular. He declared that Jordan is totally committed to the unity of the two banks and will therefore do the impossible to help the Arab people of Palestine to regain their freedom and their land. He emphasised the need to help the Palestinians so that they can preserve the Arab identity in Palestine, and added that supporting the Palestinians is part of a Jordanian strategy to safeguard national security and Arab interests. Jordan, he said, is therefore addressing itself to the task of helping the Palestinian people regain their rights regardless of all hostile forces and the intrigues being hatched against Jordan. The King said that despite the fact that previous initiatives to establish a lasting peace were not successful, Jordan will maintain its national stand and pursue its efforts for achieving peace based on justice.

Sawt Al Shaab: Family comes together

FOR the second time in two years Jordan is hosting the expatriates and their second conference in Amman, a practice which symbolises the country's true orientation towards preserving national unity and keeping strong links between expatriates and their homeland. This unity within the Jordanian family was emphasised by King Hussein in his press conference on Saturday in which he said that Palestinians and Jordanians ought to work together and face the coming challenges. In the conference opening Monday the best and most genuine picture of coherence and interaction between the members of the Jordanian family will be displayed, and the working papers the delegates are scheduled to discuss reflect the desire of the government and the expatriates to launch fruitful cooperation serving national objectives. One has to admit though that the experiment of the first conference was not comprehensive, and that not all recommendations have been implemented. But through closer cooperation and diligence and sincerity the second conference is bound to come up with solutions to problems of common concern and pave the way for successful cooperation.

Do these ancient lands hear the signals?

By Rami G. Khouri

THE visit to the Middle East by United States Vice President George Bush later this month should be a good opportunity to take stock of exactly where the assorted Middle Eastern players stand vis-a-vis the United States. It is unlikely that Mr. Bush's visit will contribute anything to unblocking the diplomatic stalemate in the Arab-Israeli conflict. It might be appropriate, for a change, to ignore whether or not this latest emissary from the West is bringing yet another package of ideas or proposals, and rather to examine the true dynamics of where the United States stands in the region. Let us assess the American position on the basis of facts and actions, rather than on American words or our own wishful thinking.

Of the many events that have taken place in the Middle East during the past year, I would suggest that four have particularly lasting significance in this respect — and sadly, all four reflect badly on the state of Arab diplomacy and political power. Rather than wallow in our weakness and failures, however, we would do well to reflect on the meaning of some of these things, so as to avoid a future based on false hopes.

The state of Arab, Israeli and American violence, terror and counter-terror that has often dominated the area does not get high marks in my book in terms of lasting political significance. Acts of violence tend to be symptomatic of the region's problems — and the inability of either concerned people or political leaderships to tackle

those problems. The warming and subsequent chill in relations between Jordan and the PLO, the problems within the PLO, the Gulf War, Egypt's position in the Arab World, Libya's effervescence, and assorted other events are, in my view, similarly short-term in nature. The future of the Middle East, and particularly if this relates to the Arab-Israeli conflict, will be determined by longer-term developments and trends that can be discerned today if we have the will, the honesty and the humility to recognise them for what they are.

In this respect, I would propose that the four following events provide meaningful clues about the basic flow of power within and around the Middle Eastern arena:

1. The Soviet Union's release of Jewish dissident Anatoli Shcharansky early this year. It was quite extraordinary how the Reagan-Gorbachev summit last autumn — or at least its international coverage by the largely western-based press — was coloured by the issue of Mr. Shcharansky. That President Reagan brought up the matter during the summit should wake us up to the real clout of those forces in the United States who would, could and often do kick up a political storm around issues that stem directly from the Israel/Zionism/Judaism dynamic. It is telling, to say the least, that the leader of the Western world and his political/media entourage thought it appropriate to give such prominence to an issue that was largely promoted by Israel.

2. The American Congress' refusal to sell to Jordan an arms package proposed by the Reagan administration. Last Autumn, the State Department and the White House were waxing eloquent about the depth of Jordanian-American friendship, the courage of the Jordanian leadership, the real threats that Jordan faced in the region, and our consequent requirements of defensive weapons. Even if the American sales were approved, the State Department said in October 1985, "Jordan will continue to be at a serious military disadvantage vis-a-vis all its neighbours, but it will have enhanced ability to protect itself... U.S. policy is to maintain Israel's existing qualitative edge throughout the region; and Israel's edge will continue to widen even assuming delivery of these arms to Jordan by 1990..."

Well, there's not much ambiguity about that position; but even so, the American Congress made it clear to the Reagan folks that the arms sale to Jordan would not pass through Congress. It was, therefore, quietly killed. What does this mean in terms of our long-term ability to rely on political heavies of the superpower variety?

Several months before the Jordan arms package was dropped, the State Department said that the Reagan administration's purpose in proposing the arms sale to Jordan was three-fold: "To convey a powerful message of U.S. support for Jordan's peace diplomacy; to help Jordan defend itself against

aggression by extremists; and to preserve our close and productive defence relationship with Jordan."

A powerful message certainly was conveyed by the American Congress, though perhaps not the same message that the Reagan administration intended. Despite the honourable position and good intentions of the Reagan administration, the ultimate course of American policy on arms sales to Jordan was determined by the flow of power in Congress.

3. The American arms package to Saudi Arabia was another case in point. The original sale proposed by the Reagan administration was a one-billion-dollar arms package of aircraft, missiles and other weapons. In the face of stiff congressional opposition, the final package was a \$265-million deal that denied the Saudis some of the key weapons they requested. Congress rejected the initial proposal, and President Reagan vetoed the congressional action. The final package passed because 34 of the 100 senators supported the president's position — the minimum number required to uphold the president's veto. In other words, 66 of 100 senators wanted to deny Saudi Arabia its arms. Is that sufficiently appreciated in our ancient lands?

The American supply to Saudi Arabia of five AWACS radar aircraft was also a telling move, given the strict conditions under which the aircraft were supplied. The bottom line in that deal suggested that the supply of

sophisticated technology and arms to the Arab states remains subject to the concerns and virtual controls of Israel and its supporters in the United States.

4. Probably the most important recent development in the region was the signature of a memorandum of understanding in May by which Israel would take part in research and development of the United States' Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), the space-based anti-missile defence programme that the United States is working on. Israel thus joins Great Britain and West Germany in competing for research contracts in this field.

Israeli officials have specifically expressed their interest in joining the SDI programme so as to benefit from new technologies that they could adapt to their own military capabilities. The situation that pertains, in 1986 therefore, is that Israel is an integral part of the research and development of the most sophisticated weaponry in the world — while several traditional Arab friends of the United States are either denied weapons that they deem necessary for their self-defence, or are supplied technology whose use is physically controlled and strictly monitored by American personnel, after having been supplied only within the political parameters set by pro-Israeli sentiment in Washington.

I mention these four developments because they would seem to provide substantial indications of exactly where the balance of power lies vis-a-vis

Arab and Israeli ties with the United States. Before we formulate any new policies, we should collectively reexamine the state of Arab-American relations in view of these and other incidents. Such an assessment, to be meaningful, must be thorough, honest and painfully blunt.

It must ask: What kind of a friend is the United States to those of us who are routinely labelled as the "moderate Arabs"? What is the larger picture? How does Arab moderation, in American eyes, fit into the apparently more important American imperative of maintaining the pre-eminence of Israel in the region?

What are the ultimate substance and meaning of close and friendly relations with the United States, if the sincere support of the White House is routinely neutralised or badly constrained by the actions of Congress and the pressures of a sophisticated public opinion machine?

These are certainly sensitive and difficult issues, ones which we may have put off considering fully for many years. The visit of Mr. Bush might be a good opportunity to take another look at the real, deep-rooted political dynamics among the Arabs, the Israelis and the Americans.

If we do not fully appreciate the real meaning and political implications of some of the things that have happened in the past year, we shall go on paying the consequences of a tradition of cultural courtesies untempered by all the kicks in the stomach that we have taken over the years.

After years of isolation, Cuba makes comeback in Latin America

By Bernd Debusmann
Reuters

HAVANA — After years of diplomatic isolation, Communist Cuba is making a comeback in Latin America — a trend that worries the United States.

In the past nine months, Brazil, Uruguay and Peru have joined the growing list of Latin American states which maintain full diplomatic relations with Cuba despite Washington's insistence that isolating the government of Fidel Castro is necessary to stop the spread of Marxism in the Western Hemisphere.

Brazil, Latin America's most populous country, announced on June 25 it would reestablish ties which were broken in 1964, two years after the Organisation of American States (OAS) expelled Cuba from its ranks.

"This is a trend which causes concern to us," said a senior official of the U.S. interests section here. "We believe a Cuban presence (in a Latin American country) helps promote subversion."

Similar sentiments have been voiced in Washington recently by leading makers of policy on Latin America, including Elliot Abrams, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs.

"The U.S. policy (of trying to isolate Cuba) has failed," Cuban Deputy Foreign Minister Jorge Bolanos said in an interview with Reuters. "And it will continue to fail. In fact, we now have relations with more countries than in 1959."

In 1959, revolutionary forces led by Fidel Castro took power from right-wing dictator Fulgencio Batista and set Cuba on a collision course with the United States.

Since the United States broke relations with the Castro government in 1961, isolating Cuba from the rest of Latin America has been a key element of U.S. foreign policy.

"Western Europe never broke relations with Cuba but the Latins did, and their change of heart is seen as a reverse for Washington," a European envoy said.

There was an earlier warming of relations between Cuba and Latin American countries in the 1970s, when ties were resumed with several countries including Argentina, Chile, Peru and Venezuela.

But these ties were later broken, in some cases after military coups. This was the case with Argentina and Chile.

The new resumption of relations with Cuba, diplomats here say, has been a by-product of Latin America's return to democracy in the 1980s.

A decade ago, only 10 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean had freely-elected governments, although Peru resumed relations with Cuba while under military rule. Now there are 25, and only two are ruled by military strongmen.

"As democratic governments took over, they faced pressure

from the domestic left and from liberals to reconsider their stand on Cuba," said a senior Western diplomat. "And many did."

They included Argentina and Ecuador, who sent ambassadors here. Bolivia and Venezuela resumed diplomatic relations but have no ambassadors. Uruguay and Peru are expected to send ambassadors soon while Colombia has yet to take a decision.

Cuban officials interpret the trend as an indication that Washington's traditional stranglehold over Latin America is loosening.

They cite Latin America's failure to endorse the Reagan administration policy on Nicaragua as another sign of a more independent mood in the region.

"On important issues, Latin America speaks with one voice now," Bolanos said. "Twenty-five years ago it did not."

Bolanos referred to the efforts of eight Latin American countries to end the fighting in Nicaragua, where U.S.-backed guerrillas are fighting a left-wing government which has close ties with both Cuba and the Soviet Union.

Mexico, Venezuela, Panama, Colombia, Brazil, Uruguay, Peru and Argentina — the "Contadora group" and its support countries — have repeatedly called for a "Latin solution" to Central America's conflicts, an implicit admonition to Washington.

U.S. officials believe that Cuba's diplomatic drive in Latin America is partly aimed at undermining President Reagan's hard-line policy on Nicaragua's ruling Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN).

With every additional diplomatic mission, the argument goes, Cuba has an easier job of convincing other Latin countries of its version of events in Central America.

According to the Reagan administration claims, Cuba sent thousands of military and civilian advisers to Nicaragua to help the Sandinistas export left-wing revolution to the rest of Central America.

Cuban Vice-President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez recently put the Cuban presence at 800 military and 600 civilian advisers and said their role was to help Nicaragua defend itself against U.S. aggression.

While few Latin American governments fully agree with Cuba's view of the conflict in Central America, Latin diplomats say Washington's case against establishing diplomatic ties was weakened by the fact that the United States itself has de facto relations.

The U.S. interests section, technically part of the Belgian embassy, is housed in the seaside building of the original embassy. The interests section, now staffed by 20 diplomats in each country, were opened in 1977 under the administration of Jimmy Carter and have since operated without interruption.



Frustrated by Western tactics, African frontline states slam the door on mediation over S. Africa

By Francis Mollongwa
Reuters

HARARE — Southern Africa's six black frontline states have slammed the door on peaceful mediation as a way to end violence and apartheid in South Africa, political analysts have said.

Zimbabwe's leading Herald newspaper, which usually reflects government thinking, commented that the peace mission of British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe "may only buy the racists a little more time... but Africans believe the path to peaceful negotiations is now closed."

It was probably the most painful decision the six states had taken since their group was established 12 years ago and told by the Organisation of African Unity to spearhead the fight against apartheid and South Africa's rule of Namibia (South West Africa), the analysts said.

But the six — Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe — had become frustrated with what they saw as delaying tactics by Western nations in the fight to force reform of South Africa's racial segregation policies.

Shrugging off inevitable economic mayhem, the group bluntly told Howe through President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia that economic sanctions must be imposed against Pretoria now to avoid bloodshed later.

Howe returned to Britain on July 12 after visiting Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique in the first stage of a European effort to keep hopes of a peaceful outcome in South Africa alive. He will later visit South Africa.

Kaunda, the chairman of the group, has threatened to pull Zambia out of the Commonwealth grouping of former British colonies.

This, and the growing wave of African defections from this month's Commonwealth Games in Scotland, will be discussed at a frontline summit in Harare next week, Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe said last Thursday.

Two of the states, Angola and Mozambique, as former

Portuguese colonies, are not members of the Commonwealth but all except Tanzania and Angola are heavily dependent economically on their white-ruled neighbour.

And South Africa has made clear it will pass on the effects of any economic embargo.

Howe, whose task is to "promote dialogue" between the South African government and the black majority, was surprised by the display of unity among the frontline states and their determination to make any sacrifice to end apartheid, analysts said.

Kaunda and Mugabe told Howe bluntly his trip was useless and Mugabe, one of the most outspoken opponents of South Africa, called Britain racist.

"The British posture is reprehensible to us in this region who are bearing the brunt of apartheid," he said.

Even moderate Mozambican Foreign Minister Joaquim

Chissano gently scorned Howe's mission, telling him: "If someone finds the magic formula that can change the minds of the South African government, then we shall applaud."

"But we think that in the light of the South African government's past behaviour, it is most unlikely that the regime will create the conditions for a dialogue."

Howe is unlikely to find any comfort in South Africa which he visits later this month after a swift trip to Washington for talks with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

Leading black nationalists from African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela down have spurned his approach as being a waste of time.

The ANC, the main black group fighting white domination in South Africa, has also refused to see Howe after a breakthrough meeting with junior foreign office minister Lynda Chalker in London shortly before Howe

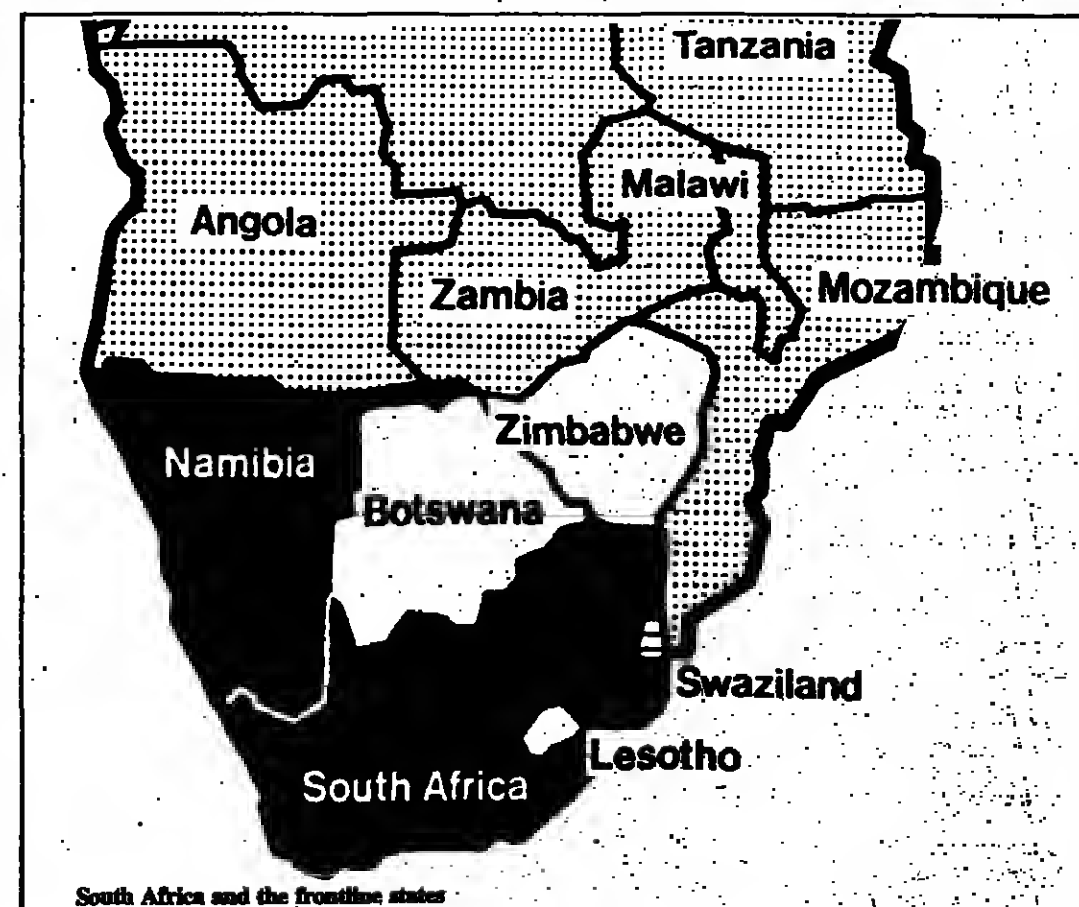
came to Africa.

In the present atmosphere of siege in South Africa the government is unlikely to take kindly to what it sees as "lessons" from abroad on how to run the country, particularly as there is a growing feeling that sanctions are inevitable.

Mugabe himself said after seeing Howe that he wondered how the British minister hoped to move "the mountain South Africa carrying only the white flag of no-sanctions."

"What was he (Howe), as a lone adventurer of this journey to South Africa, going to achieve, where seven men... declared they had failed?" Mugabe said in a reference to a high-powered Commonwealth group that gave up trying to set up talks in May.

Four countries — Nigeria, Ghana, Uganda and Kenya — have pulled out of the Commonwealth Games as a protest against British policies over South Africa.



Palestinian history in photos

Before Their Diaspora:
A Photographic History of
Palestinians 1876-1948

By Walid Khalidi
Institute for Palestine Studies,
1984, 351 pp., \$60.00 (\$27.00
paperback)

Reviewed by Dr. Henry C. Fischer.
Reprinted from the Link,
published by Americans for
Middle East Understanding, Inc.,
New York.

WALID Khalidi's photographic
portrayal of the Palestinians
inevitably invites comparison with
that of Graham-Brown, published
in 1980 and reviewed in the first
issue of last year's Link. The most
obvious difference is that it is
bigger: there are more
photographs (474 as compared
with 247); the format is larger;
and there is a more elaborate
series of maps (six in all, and all in
colour), which graphically chart
the accelerating incursion of
Zionism. The new book also
extends two years further in time,
to the end of the British mandate.

Although the pictures cover
similar topics, there are
remarkably few cases of
reduplication (nos. 79, 242, 243h,
263, 336, 338), and Khalidi,
drawing on the archives of the
Institute of Palestine Studies,
is much less dependent on European
sources. Coverage of towns, cities
and buildings is more extensive.
Rural workers and villagers are
represented in all their diversity
and, while the small but distinctive
population of Bedouin are given
less than their due, the educated
sector is very much in evidence.
The group-pictures of school
classes, committees, delegations

and families may seem a little
tedious to some, but they
effectively attest the existence of a
very responsible society. This
point is underscored by the list of
signatories of the Memorandum
submitted by Arab Senior
Government Officials of June
30th, 1936, to the British High
Commissioner (no. 2506-g). It
shows "both the range of
Palestinian professional talent
already in public service in the
mid-1930s, and the extent to
which the Palestine national
movement had crystallised since
then." The same kind of
documentation is also provided
for books (no. 241a-p), ranging
from an Arabic translation of
"The Odyssey" to tracts on
chemistry, politics and trade
unions. A series of advertisements
(no. 242 a-q) similarly
supplements views of trades and
industry, including some items not
otherwise represented, such as
"The Eastern Bus Factory,"
makers of bodies for buses and
trucks, and "The Palestine Iron
and Brass Foundry," which
manufactured equipment such as
irrigation pumps, stone crushers,
and flour mills. Banking is also
represented here and in no. 241p,
as is printing (342d and much of
the 241 series). On the other hand
Filistin is mentioned only in
passing, in reference to two
caricatures (243h,c), whereas
Graham-Brown illustrates the
front page of this Jaffa newspaper,
initially biweekly, and eventually a
daily (page 165).

In respect to agriculture Khalidi
points out that, even at the end of
the mandate, the land under
cultivation by Palestinian farmers
(excepting citrus) was about 93
per cent of the total. In the desert

cultivation of the Negev the
proportion was 99 per cent: "Thus
it was the Palestinians who made
the desert bloom." Palestinian
livestock represented more than
93 per cent of the total. Only in
citrus production, which had long
been a speciality of the
Palestinians (and notably the Jaffa
orange) was Zionist production
nearly the same.

As an example of the way the
new book sometimes brings the
reader closer to the subject, one
may compare the views of
"primitive destruction" of Arab
buildings, which, in
Graham-Brown's book, are puffs
of smoke, photographed at a safe
distance by one of the British
officers responsible for them (p.
177). Khalidi shows the effects of
the demolition at short range (no.
258, 262, 283).

BOOK REVIEW

In contrast to the more
sociological approach of the
earlier book, the newer one, as its
title indicates, emphasises
historical sequence. The material
is divided into five chronological
sections, each of them subdivided
by topics: "Political and Public
Events" or "Political
Developments" is the most
recurrent theme, while most of the
other topics occur at least twice,
including rural life and the
countryside, urban and religious
life, towns, and trades and
industries. People are portrayed
under various categories; the most
memorable picture of this kind
(351) shows a family of the fateful
village of Deir Yassin, dated 1927.
Each of the five sections is
headed by an introduction and a



Walid Khalidi

chronology of events. The initial
introduction is particularly
forceful, describing the roots of
the Palestinian community and
the profound significance of
Palestine for Islam. Jerusalem was
the Arabic name of Al-Bait
Al-Muqaddas, "the Holy House"
(now al-Quds, "the Holy"), and
the mosque that crowns the old city
"is the earliest surviving
Muslim monument anywhere." Khalidi
emphasises that, "in relation
to the advent of Zionism, 'the
adversity' between Palestinians and Jews
were stable and peaceful,
mellowed by more than a
millennium of coexistence and
often shared adversity'; behind
this tolerance lay 'the reverence
held by Islam for the Hebrew
prophets, enhanced, in the case of
Palestine, by the tradition of
pilgrimage to biblical sites'."
It will be clear from the
foregoing remarks that I believe
Khalidi's book represents the
Palestinians, and their plight,
more fully and dramatically than
its predecessor. But it must be said
that if the pictures of
Graham-Brown's book are
outdone in this one, her text, with
its emphasis on the lives and
problems of villagers, is still worth
reading.

Is John Paul softening towards Liberation Theology?

By Bernd Debusmann
Reuter

BOGOTA — Pope John Paul II,
concerned over divisions in Latin
America's Roman Catholic
church, appears to have softened
his opposition to the controversial
theology of liberation — up to a
point.

Theologians here say the Pope's
speeches during his tour of
Colombia on July 1-7
underscored a cautious opening to
a school of thought whose most
extreme followers have in the past
swapped the Cross for the
machine gun, saying pious words
were not enough to help Latin
America's poverty-stricken
masses.

John Paul, spiritual leader of
800 million Roman Catholics, is
far from blessing Marxist-inspired
militants in the church. But
scholars agree there have been a
series of conciliatory gestures
toward Liberation Theology in
recent months, capped by the
pontiff's visit to Colombia.

"We must recognise the
usefulness and necessity of a
theology of liberation... which
should develop in sympathy with
the theological tradition of the
church and in accordance with its
social doctrines," he told
Colombia's bishops on July 2.

The speech reflected similar
language in a Vatican document
on the subject in April and an
April 9 letter from the Pope to the
bishops of Brazil, long a bastion of
Liberation Theology.

"There is no doubt that there
has been an opening, a more
positive attitude and a better
understanding of Liberation
Theology (by the Pope)," said
Father Eduardo Cardenas, a
noted expert on the Latin

American church, who teaches
theology in Rome and at Bogota's
conservative Javeriana
University.

In interviews with Reuters,
experts from left-leaning Roman
Catholic institutions agreed.
"What the Pope said in
Colombia shows there has been a
reapprochement with the theology
of liberation, that it is considered
valid as long as it is not used as an
instrument of ideology or
politics," said Father Manuel
Uribe, director of the Centre for
Investigations and Popular
Studies (CINPE).

"The Pope's speeches
contained elements of Liberation
Theology," said Father Francisco
de la Rion of the Jesuit-run
CINPE. "The Pope's attitude has
changed since he met the Brazilian
bishops (earlier this year)."

In his speeches, the Pope
reaffirmed the church's concern
for the poor and the need for
social justice in a continent where
the gap between rich and poor is
vast and still growing.
But he also told priests that they
must obey the church and their
bishops and stay away from
politics, a clear warning to rebel
clerics who see no contradiction
between left-wing revolution and
Christian values.

The most militant adherents of
Liberation Theology use Marxist
analysis to explain the need for
social and political change in the
Third World.

On the extreme fringe of
Liberation Theology, priests
joined left-wing guerrilla groups
in a number of Latin American
countries, including Nicaragua, El
Salvador and Colombia.

A young Colombian priest,
Camilo Torres, who died in a
battle with the army in 1966,

became a cult figure and a popular
hero for leftists throughout Latin
America.

Cardenas and other theologians
note that while the Pope, a
staunch anti-Communist,
condemned violence and urged
Colombian rebels to lay down
their arms, he did not condemn
the motivation of those who use
guns to fight for social justice.
"He sharply criticised the
means, but not the end,"
Cardenas said.

Church officials here traced the
Vatican's apparent softening to
the debates and deep divisions
sparked by a sharply worded
1984 document which condemned
the influence of social analysis on
Liberation Theology.

The Vatican followed the 1984
condemnation by summoning to
Rome a leading adherent of
Liberation Theology, Brazilian
priest Leonardo Boff, who had
written a book in which he termed
the Vatican "authoritarian."

The Vatican's ideological
watchdog, the sacred
Congregation of the Faith, found
Boff's writings "dangerous to the
faith" and condemned him to a
year of public silence — one of the
harshest punishments the church
can inflict on an errant priest.

This fuelled the long-running
debate between progressives and
conservatives in the Latin church
and deepened divisions.

But in what many Latin
churchmen saw as gesture of
conciliation, the Vatican lifted the
silence order on Boff before the
year was over.

And the Pope told Brazil's
bishops in a letter he wanted to
"remain in contact with you and
take part in fraternity in all
the important and demanding
tasks of your work..."

Church officials said the softer
language from the Vatican was
issued despite efforts by some of
Latin America's most
conservative bishops to work out a
"theology of reconciliation" —
stressing Christian communion
and harmony rather than social
justice — as a counterweight to
the theology of liberation.

Church sources said the April
document clarifying the Vatican
position was issued after many
negotiations and 13 revisions,
reflecting the importance placed
on Latin America.

Theologians say that while the
Vatican is more conciliatory on
mainstream liberationists, it
remains in unyielding opposition
to some aspects of the movement.
"There is not only one theology
of liberation, there are many,"
Cardenas said. One flourish in
Nicaragua, where bitter divisions
in the church are paralleled by a
sharp conflict between the
conservative hierarchy and the
leftist government.

The ruling Sandinistas
encouraged the growth of a
"popular church," an offshoot of
Liberation Theology which blends
the left-wing ideals of the
Sandinistas with Christian values
and openly defies the Vatican and
the local hierarchy.

Nicaragua's cabinet includes
three priests: Foreign Minister
Miguel d'Escoto, Education
Minister Fernando Cardenal and
his brother Ernesto, minister of
culture. They hold their posts
despite a Vatican ban.

The Pope branded Nicaragua's
popular church "absurd and
dangerous" before he went there
in 1983. There is no indication he
will change his mind on this aspect
of Liberation Theology.

W. Germany hit by wave of asylum-seekers

By Susan J. Smith
The Associated Press

BERLIN — Ali, 21-year-old
Iranian, lives with three other men
in a metal container with floor
space the size of a sandbox on the
outskirts of Berlin. But he is not
complaining.

"A former soldier in Ayatollah
Khomeini's army, Ali is part of a
flood of people coming to West
Germany in search of political
asylum."

As long as Khomeini is in Iran,
we don't want to go back," he said,
pointing to himself and his friends.
"We want to be free, and in Iran
you are not free at all."

In recent weeks, thousands of
foreigners have been pouring into
West Germany seeking political
asylum, stretching both the
country's social services and the
political will to deal with them.

While they wait for word on
asylum, most live in hotels and
guesthouses. Some are
temporarily housed in a 55-bed
"container camp" — a series of
small metal buildings without
amenities like running water —
where Ali is staying.

In addition to Iran,
asylum-seekers come from such
nations as Pakistan, India,

Lebanon, Romania and Poland.

Many of them enter West Berlin
by way of East Berlin, prompting a
top aide to Chancellor Helmut
Kohl to ask the East Germans to
halt the flow.

"This is a completely
unacceptable state of affairs, and
it's becoming a burden on
relations (with East Germany),"
Kohl's chief of staff, Wolfgang
Schaeuble, said in an interview
published last Thursday in the
Bonn daily Die Welt.

Many of the asylum-seekers fly
to East Berlin's Schoenefeld
airport. East German police, who
stop East Germans from leaving
the country, allow most of the
foreigners to cross the border to
West Berlin.

Under Berlin's complicated
legal status, foreigners can enter
West Berlin without the visas
required for the rest of West
Germany. Then they can apply for
political asylum under the
generous West German laws.

Last month, 5,531
asylum-seekers came through
East Germany to West Germany,
the highest-ever monthly number,
West German authorities say.
Last year, 74,000 people applied
for asylum in West Germany,
more than double the number in

1984.

If present trends continue, more
than 100,000 people will have
sought asylum in West Germany
by the end of the year, with about
one-third of them going to West
Berlin, the city government
estimates.

The dramatic increase has
resulted in calls for tightening up
West Germany's generous laws on
political asylum.

"The stream of applicants has
reached a point at which it can no
longer be accepted," a statement
by the conservative Christian
Social Union Party of Bavaria said
last Wednesday.

The party plans to propose
modifications to the constitution,
which unconditionally provides
asylum for those who are
"politically persecuted."

Word of West Germany's
liberal policy toward
asylum-seekers has obviously
gotten around the globe.
Seventy-five per cent of those
coming are from non-European
countries. Most of the recent
newcomers are from Iran.

"Every young boy in Iran
knows that West Germany will
accept us," Ali said.
"Many of us would like to go to
the United States, or Denmark or

Sweden, but those countries are
close to us," Ali's friend, Shahriar,
23, said.

Nationwide figures were not
available from the West German
interior ministry on how many of
the applicants eventually receive
asylum.

But Eva-Maria Wehling, a
spokesman from the German Red
Cross in West Berlin, said most of
those who can prove they come
from politically repressive
governments get asylum, although
the process may take years.

While awaiting a decision, the
asylum-seekers are given food,
housing, and even pocket money
— 2.30 marks a day, about \$1 —
by the West German government.

But they are not allowed to
work, "because we already have
high joblessness," Wehling said.

All of West Berlin's 7,100 beds
for asylum-seekers are full, and
many of the buildings are
extremely crowded, she said. One
Red Cross home that was built for
200 now holds 1,000.

The container camp, which has
55 beds, "was only built for
emergencies," Wehling said. "As
soon as a place is available in one
of our regular buildings we move
them," she added.

Moscow cracks down on the black economy

A new law in the Soviet Union aims to crack down on corrupt officials
and black marketeers spending their profits. But Patrick Cockburn
reports that the "second economy" is deeply-rooted.

MOSCOW — Corruption in the
Soviet Union can bring rewards.
When police arrested one man for
taking bribes this April they found
his property included 12 cars, 47
tape recorders and colour
televisions and 3,000 bottles of
cognac and wine.

This pales compared with
property confiscated from another
criminal sentenced at about the
same time. He had three Volga
cars, 23 dinner services with 380
settings, 74 suits and 149 pairs of
shoes. "He had hidden some
things away for emergencies,"
reported Moscow Radio.
Including 735,000 roubles
(\$105,000) in cash, 18,300
roubles worth of 3 per cent loan
bonds, 450 gold coins and 39 gold
watches.

In stepping up the
anti-corruption campaign which
started in the last years of
President Brezhnev, the
government has drafted a law
which compels anybody spending
10,000 roubles on an article to fill
in a special form registering the
deal and giving details of the
purchaser's source of income.
Only when buying houses or
dachas (country cottages) is the
threshold higher, at 20,000
roubles.

The aim of the new rules is to
make more difficult to spend
unearned income from bribery or
the black market. At the same
time, penalties for minor
kickbacks — use of state property
for private use and petty
corruption — are all increased.

This is in keeping with the
campaign launched shortly before
President Brezhnev died.
Accusations of corruption
undermined the political position
of the Brezhnev old guard
throughout the 1982-85
leadership crisis.

Periodic scandals erupted: the

deputy minister of fisheries was
executed in 1982 because of his
involvement in a swindle whereby
caviar was exported from the
Soviet Union in tin labelled as
containing salted herring. In 1984
the manager of Gastronom
Number One in Gorky Street, one
of Moscow's better food shops,
was shot for systematic corruption,
and theft. When police dug up his
garage they found bundles of
rotting roubles he had not found
time to spend.

Systematic corruption at the top
worries the new leadership. Mr.
Yegor Ligachev, number two in
the Politburo, quoted Lenin as
saying that the most serious faults
of Communist Party officials were
self-satisfaction, drunkenness and
corruption. The last, he said, was
still the greatest problem facing
the party.

The difficulty in fighting
corruption at the top is that it is
linked to the vast number of ways
that ordinary Soviet citizens can
supplement their income. The
number of people with second
jobs greatly increased between
1964 and 1982, as real incomes
soared but the supply of services
and goods failed to keep pace.

Surveys by Soviet economists
show that the average Soviet
citizen spends only 10 per cent of
his income on services, but if
demand was met this would jump
to 20 per cent.

The size of the second economy
in the Soviet Union is illustrated
by a survey conducted between
1974 and 1979 of 1936 former
Soviet citizens who had emigrated
to the U.S. This showed that a
family with husband and wife
working would spend a third of
their monthly salary of 304
roubles in the second economy —
not counting food bought in the
peasant markets.

Outgoings ranged from 398

roubles spent on services,
including construction, to 61
roubles in under-the-counter
payments to shop assistants to
keep goods. The endemic nature
of this type of petty corruption was
noted in a speech in Leningrad by
Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev soon after
he became leader. "Try to get
your flat repaired," he challenged
his audience. "You will definitely
have to find a moonlighter to do it
for you — and he will have to steal
the materials from a building site."

The problem is that wholesale
bribery at the top is linked to
minor kickbacks by consumers
across the counter. Last year, a
senior investigator from the
Department for Struggle against
Embezzlement of Socialist
Property and Speculation
(OBKHS) involved in a
crackdown against crime in the
Moscow trade system said that
since October 1983 he had dealt
with over 30 cases involving the
theft of 3 million roubles-worth of
goods by some 100 management
personnel from the capital's
best-known shops.

He said officials received 1
million roubles in bribes and paid
three-quarters of this sum in
bribes themselves. When
OBKHS inspectors carried out
test purchases in shops across
Moscow on a single day in 1982
they found that 156 of 193
purchases they were checked. The
profits were then systematically
passed up the line.

The manager of one fruit and
vegetable shop kept and account
book noting all kickbacks over a
10-year period, including food
hampers despatched to the
responsible authorities across
Moscow four times a year. None
was ever returned.

The new law is unlikely to dent
the second economy, which is an
integral part of the Soviet
economy overall. The compulsory
registration of any large-scale
transactions appears to be directly

targeted against two forms of
private property on which the
better off or the corrupt spend
money in the Soviet Union: cars
and dachas.

The Soviet Union now has some
12 million private car owners,
each of whom has paid at least
7,000 roubles. Spares are in short
supply. The Vaz plant at Togliatti,
which makes the Zhiguli, the most
common car on the roads, satisfies
only 40 to 45 per cent of the
demand for spares, according to
Soviet economists. The same is
true of other car manufacturers,
leading to vast black market for
spares.

Moscow police recently
arrested Mr. Mikhail Ryabkov,
nominal hotel worker earning
160 roubles a month. In fact,
reported Soviet television,
"Moscow speculators knew him
well by the name of Dirty Misha,
one of the very biggest speculators
in spare parts for the Zaporozhets
car." Although Mr. Ryabkov
claimed to be a simple car
enthusiast, a search of his
department revealed 100 brake
cylinder seals, 18 sets of brake
cylinders, 10 sets of piston rings,
92 camshaft bearings and other
spare parts. He was jailed for 10
years.

Dachas can vary in size from a
full size country house to little
more than a garden shed which
costs 1,700 roubles if bought
prefabricated. Ownership is
common. Leningrad, with a
population of 5 million, is
surrounded by 950,000 dachas,
mostly for summer use only.

Construction materials and
garden equipment are often in
short supply. Mr. A. Reukov,
Procurement General of the USSR,
said studies showed that 40 per
cent of dachas are built with the
illegal use of state equipment: "A
crane or bulldozer can make a
profit 50 roubles per hour."

It is almost impossible to
quantify the size of the economy.
Financial Times Feature.

Scientists to study decrease in Antarctica's ozone

By Jim Fuller
USA

WASHINGTON — Scientists will
fly to Antarctica in August to try
to determine the cause of an
alarming drop in the protective
ozone layer that occurs above the
frozen continent several months
every year.

The National Science
Foundation, which supervises
U.S. activities in Antarctica, says
four teams of scientists will use
high-altitude balloons and
sophisticated measuring devices
to study "a hole in the ozone" that
covers an area as large as the
continental United States,
stretching from Antarctica to the
southern tip of South Africa.

A total of 13 university and
government scientists will fly from
New Zealand to McMurdo
Station, the principal U.S.
scientific outpost in Antarctica, to
investigate the problem.

Scientists report that the area's
level of ozone drops sharply every
spring, a period lasting from
mid-August to the end of October
in the Southern Hemisphere. The
largest rate of ozone depletion
occurs during September.

Recent studies show that the
mysterious phenomenon, first
identified by British researchers in
the early 1970s, has become more
pronounced in recent years. The
National Aeronautics and Space
Administration (NASA) reports
that data from satellite
observations showed a 50-per
cent decrease in the ozone layer
last year, or about 50 times greater
than should be expected for the
present-day atmosphere. The

readings were about 30 per cent
below those of five years earlier.

Scientists note that the puzzling
ozone hole may be linked to the
return of sunlight to Antarctica, as
the icy domain emerges from a
period of round-the-clock polar
night at the end of August.

Ozone is a form of oxygen that
exists in very small amounts
throughout the atmosphere but is
concentrated principally in a
layer about 24 kilometres above
the Earth. Ozone is critical to life
because it screens out more than
99 per cent of the sun's harmful
ultraviolet radiation. Scientists
fear that a weakened ozone shield
might increase the incidence of
skin cancer, seriously harm plant
life and cause a number of other
adverse effects.

World attention was focused on
the problem in 1975, when it was
suggested that the ozone layer
might be affected by high-flying
aircraft, agricultural fertilisers and
chlorofluorocarbon chemicals
used as propellants in aerosol cans
and refrigerants in cooling
systems.

Scientists report that the
Antarctic phenomenon does not
appear to be an immediate threat
to world wide ozone levels.
However, they are concerned that
the annual ozone depletion may
be a prelude to more widespread
events and because they have no
atmospheric model to explain
what is happening.

"It is not yet evident whether
the behaviour of ozone above the
Antarctic is an early warning of
future changes in global ozone or

whether it will always be confined
to the Antarctic because of the
special geophysical conditions
that exist there," said Robert
Watson, director of NASA's
division of earth science and
applications.

However, in testimony before a
Senate subcommittee in June,
Watson said scientists have
observed increases in the
atmospheric concentration of
gases that affect the ozone layer
and indications "that the total
content of ozone has changed
significantly on the regional and
possibly global scale."

Scientists theorise that any
decrease in ozone levels would be
most pronounced in Antarctica
because of unique meteorological
conditions that exist there. The
annual depletion of ozone occurs
at a time of year when
atmospheric conditions over
Antarctica create a massive polar
vortex that keeps the same mass of
air swirling above the continent for
several months.

There are numerous
speculations about what is causing
the decrease in Antarctica's
ozone, with theories ranging from
chemical pollutants to methane, a
gaseous hydrocarbon that can be
either man-made or produced
naturally through the
decomposition of vegetation.
Some scientists attribute the drop
in ozone to pollution caused by
dust from the 1982 eruption of the
El Chichon volcano in Mexico.

Watson reports that the
depletion of the ozone layer is
strongly linked to the warming of
the Earth, known as the

"greenhouse effect." He said the
so-called greenhouse gases, such
as carbon dioxide produced by the
burning of fossil fuels and various
chlorofluorocarbons, are the same
gases that destroy the ozone layer.
The greenhouse theory holds
that certain gases in the
atmosphere allow the sun's
radiation to penetrate and warm
the Earth but then absorb the
energy the Earth radiates back
into the atmosphere, forming a
thermal blanket around the
planet.

"We can expect significant
changes in climate in the next few
decades," Watson said, predicting
that greenhouse warming during
the next 50 years should be about
twice what it has been during the
previous 130 years.

The United States banned use
of chlorofluorocarbons as aerosol
propellants in 1977, but global use
of the chemicals is growing.
Chlorofluorocarbons continue to
be used in the United States and
elsewhere for refrigeration, air
conditioning and in plastic foam
products.

Negotiations under the auspices
of the United Nations
Environment Programme are
currently underway to develop a
protocol for controlling all, or at
least certain, uses of
chlorofluorocarbons. The United
States and 25 other countries plus
the European Community signed
an ozone convention last year to
promote international monitoring
and exchange of data on chemicals
that may affect the ozone layer.
Ratification of the convention is
expected by 1987 or 1988.

British journalists to start 'Independent' daily

By Alan Elsner
Reuter

LONDON — In Britain, until
recently the idea of a group of
journalists trying to start their own
national daily newspaper would
have been dismissed

Commonwealth Games to continue as planned

LONDON (R) — The Commonwealth Games will go on despite the withdrawal of five African states and the removal of South African-born Zola Budd from England's team, British Sports Minister Richard Tracey said Monday.

"It is rather like having a party with some of the members of the family absent... the family has to carry on," Tracey told reporters. "I do not think that the family can break down simply because some of the members are refusing to come along."

He said the British government was pleased that a decision had been reached on the participation of Budd and South African-born swimmer Annette Cowley, who Games organisers said Sunday were ineligible for the England team because they failed to meet residence qualifications.

"This controversy and this query has been around in the air for quite a while now," Tracey said.

Nigeria, Ghana, Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania have announced their withdrawal from the Edinburgh Games in protest against Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's refusal to impose immediate all-out sanctions against Pretoria.

Ghana and Nigeria had also cited Budd's and Cowley's participation as a reason for staying away.

Sunday a member of Thatcher's Conservative Party said the controversy surrounding the

Games, due to start on July 24, meant the whole event should be axed.

John Carlisle, chairman of the Conservative Party Sports Committee, called on sportsmen to refuse to take part in the Games.

"Turn the tables on the political blackmailers," he said to journalists Sunday night.

"The Games have become a farce and they should be cancelled. It would be totally ridiculous to go ahead with something that has plainly nullified its usefulness," said Carlisle, who is also secretary of the All-Party British-South Africa Parliamentary Group.

"The so-called 'friendly games' have now turned into the vendetta games," he added.

Another Conservative member of the House of Commons, Peter Bruinvels, said: "This is a retrograde step, pandering to the

black communities."

He said Budd, 20, and Cowley, 19, who both hold British passports, had represented Britain with honour and distinction.

Sunday's decision by the Commonwealth Games Federation did not directly affect their eligibility to compete in other international events as members of a British team.

Budd said Sunday night she was disappointed at the decision but accepted it and said she would now have to concentrate on the 3,000 metres in the European Championships in Stuttgart.

Opposition members of parliament and anti-apartheid groups welcomed the decision by the Games' governing body, which was called five days early in a surprise move.

"For too long Zola Budd has been a pseudo-citizen of Britain, spending most of her time in South Africa," opposition Labour Member of Parliament Doug Hoyle said.

He and others said they believed the decision might reverse the boycott, especially if Mrs. Thatcher modified her opposition to sanctions.

India may boycott Games

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — The Indian government ordered its sports team Monday not to depart for the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh and the Foreign Ministry said a boycott was possible to protest Britain's South Africa policy.

"We feel seriously about the issue involved," a Foreign Ministry spokesman told reporters.



Zola Budd — will miss Commonwealth Games

Pedersen holds on to Tour de France lead

BORDEAUX, France (AP) — Belgian Rudy Dhaenens won a sprint finish of the Tour de France cycling classic's longest stage Monday, 258.5 kilometres from Poitiers, with Dane Jorgen Pedersen retaining the yellow jersey of overall leader.

Dhaenens was in a group of 13 riders who broke away from the pack on the outskirts of Bordeaux, and with teammate Claude Criquiellin managed to get a lead of a few lengths on the rest of the escape group.

But he nearly missed taking the stage win by easing up too far from the line as Dutch rider Mathieu Hermans and France's Laurent Biondi accelerated.

Pedersen arrived with the pack some 30 seconds behind the winners.

Although the first major mountain stage is scheduled Tuesday, there was no let-up in

the competition and despite its length, the stage was run at an average of more than 40 kph.

Argentina shocks U.S. hoops team

OVIEDO, Spain (AP) — Argentina, led by Esteban Camissara's 21 points, shocked the United States 74-70 Sunday in the opening game of the semifinal round of the World Basketball Championships as the Americans missed 16 free throws.

It was the Americans' first loss in the 15-day round-robin tournament.

Each team plays two more games in the semifinal round before the championship round begins Thursday in Madrid.

In the two other games in Oviedo Sunday night, Italy edged Canada 89-86 and Yugoslavia crushed China 106-82.

The United States must win their next two games, against Canada and Yugoslavia, to have a chance to win the gold medal.

The defending champion and favoured Soviet Union, playing in the other semifinal grouping in Barcelona, beat Greece 105-93 Sunday.

The Americans made only 14 of 30 free throws as the partisan Argentine crowd whistled and jeered every time they stepped to the line.

"It doesn't take a whole lot of looking to see why we lost," U.S. coach Luke Olson of Arizona said. "We missed 16 free throws. There's no question that was the difference."

Mets, Red Sox are riding high

By Larry Fine
Reuter

NEW YORK — The powerful New York Mets and the surprising Boston Red Sox have earned the highest marks so far as the baseball season takes a midterm break for the annual All-Star Game on Tuesday.

Fittingly, Dwight Gooden of the Mets and Roger Clemens of the Red Sox are expected to duel at the start of the midseason exhibition in a match-up of fireballing right-handers that may well be reprised when American and National League champions line up for the World Series in October.

The Mets, who fell just short of catching the St. Louis Cardinals last year, have dominated the National League East this season from the opening bell.

New York added Boston hurler Bob Ojeda in an off-season trade and now possess the most daunting quartet of starters in recent years. Their top four hurlers — Gooden, Ojeda, Sid Fernandez and Ron Darling — have a combined record of 41-10, while the team overall has won nearly seven of every 10 games.

The Mets, who enjoy a double-digit advantage in the standings, also lead the league in batting average, home runs and runs scored thanks to the efforts of Gary Carter, Darryl Strawberry and Keith Hernandez, among others.

Boston, usually noted for offence, have relied on standout pitching to grab a comfortable lead in the American League East while winning games at a rate second only to the Mets.

Foremost among the Red Sox hurlers is Clemens, whose blazing fastball has earned him the nickname "Rocket."

Clemens, who won his first 14 decisions this year and whose 15 wins is three more than the next best, made baseball history this season when he struck out a phenomenal 20 Seattle Mariners batters out of a possible 27 outs in the game.

Playing within the cosy homefield confines of Fenway Park, Boston usually leads the league's home run list. This season, however, the Red Sox are doing it with singles and doubles.

Only two American League teams have hit fewer homers than Boston, whose attack has been led by batting champion Wade Boggs, Jim Rice and newly-acquired Don Baylor from the New York Yankees.

Last year's division champions have fallen on hard times.

The Los Angeles Dodgers are last in the National League West but they are closer to the lead than any of the three other 1985 division winners.

The Dodgers have been ravaged by injuries to key players including slugger Pedro Guerrero. Leading the division are perennial also-rans Houston Astros and San Francisco Giants.

Defending National League champion St. Louis Cardinals have collapsed. The once potent attack of the speedy Cardinals has slowed to a crawl and St. Louis is dragging more than 20 games behind the pace of the Mets.

In the American League, World Series winners Kansas City are trying to catch up after quick starts by mid West Division rivals California Angels and new threats

Texas Rangers. East champion Toronto Blue Jays are reversing a slow start but still have three teams to surmount on their way to Boston.

With nearly half of the 162-game regular season remaining there is, of course, lots of time left — and honours are not passed out until the test is over.

The lowly status of last year's division titlist is just one of this year's surprises.

Two 300-game winners have changed uniforms. Steve Carlton, the second greatest strikeout pitcher in history, was released by the Philadelphia Phillies. But "Lefty," as Carlton is known, was quickly signed up to join the Giants.

Tom Seaver, longing to finish his career with a team closer to his Connecticut home, got his wish when the Chicago White Sox traded him to the league-leading Boston.

In another interesting trade, the New York Yankees dealt disappointing starter Ed Whitson back to the San Diego Padres.

Whitson, who left the Padres to sign a multi-million-dollar contract, had become so agitated by the abuse of the local fans over his poor pitching that he rarely played when the Yankees were host.

Meanwhile, superstar Pete Rose was finally beginning to show his age.

The 46-year-old Rose, player-manager of the Cincinnati Reds, had guided the club back into the race but was struggling at the plate. The all-time hits leader was barely over a meagre 200 batting mark, prompting speculation that this would be his last season as a player.

Zico calls for World Cup rule changes

By Sergio Leite
Reuters

RIO DE JANEIRO — Brazil's international soccer star Zico thinks it is time the rules of the World Cup Finals were changed, in an interview published last Tuesday by the Jornal Do Brasil.

Zico said: "I can't believe they cannot find a formula that allows the best team to win. Take West Germany, for instance, they made it to the final but no one doubts they played to lose their first-round game against Denmark. After all, it would be better to take on Morocco than Spain."

Zico suggests a new formula, with less participants and a qualifying round where only the real best sides should advance.

"Penalty shootouts should be discarded. Perhaps playing another match would be the ideal solution," he said.

Brazil were eliminated by France on a penalty shootout of their quarterfinal knockout match in Guadalajara.

Zico says he is ready to accept the fact that his career will be jeopardised by his penalty miss during regulation time of the match against France.

"Fate was cruel with me. But I just had to take that penalty, even though I was still not entirely

within the mood of the match. But had I let someone else take the penalty, many people would call me a coward."

"To Brazil, however, I know my critics will always remember that penalty whenever they wish to diminish my merits," he sadly remarked.

At 33, Zico says he does not consider his generation of players.

"Perhaps we can be considered losers so far as the World Cup is concerned. Otherwise, no. Socrates, Falcão, Edinho, Junior, Oscar and myself, we all won numerous important national and international titles."

The Brazilian star said that he was not considering retirement.

"So long as I feel happy off a soccer field, I'll keep on playing," he said.

Zico, however, lamented that in the World Cup Finals of 1978, 1982 and 1986 Brazil never reached the final, "even though our only defeat was that against Italy, in 1982."

In spite of the disappointment caused by the elimination this year against France, Zico still thinks the 3-2 defeat by Italy in Spain hurt much more.

"We simply did not deserve losing against Italy in 1982. We had the best team but, unfortunately, we did not take advantage of the regulations."

After spending more than 500 hours working on a bicycle to strengthen his left knee muscles so he could play in the World Cup, Zico said he is not considering a new surgery, even though that was recommended by team doctor.

Laffite to be on feet again 'in three or four months'

SIDCUP, England (AP) — French Formula One motor racing driver Jacques Laffite was reported to be "doing extremely well" in hospital on Monday, 24 hours after breaking both legs in an accident at the British Grand Prix at Brands Hatch.

The 42-year-old driver also fractured his pelvis in the multiple pile-up that occurred when nine cars collided at the start of Sunday's race that was eventually

won by Britain's Nigel Mansell. Laffite was rushed by helicopter to Queen Mary's hospital at Sidcup in Kent. Surgeon Tony Percy said Monday the driver was still in intensive care but recovering well.

Laffite received four pints of blood on Sunday and three more pints Monday. Percy added: "I don't see any problems about him driving again. I'm sure he'll be able to drive all right."

FLAT FOR RENT

Unfurnished ground floor deluxe apartment. Consists of three bedrooms, salon, living room, dining room. With separate central heating and garden.

Location: Jabal Amman, Fourth Circle, next to Greek Embassy.

For information please contact 671614 8:00 - 13:00 and from 15:00 - 19:00

TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
Jordan Institute of Public Administration (JIPA)
Tender announcement for equipment for JIPA's part of Manpower Development Project financed by World Bank Loan No. 2633-JO

This notice for specific equipment for Jordan's Institute of Public Administration follows the General Procurement Notice for this project which appeared in Development forum Business early 1986 edition.

Bid packages include:
— Typing Training Unit
— Office Machinery and Training Equipment
— Audio Visual Aids
— Computer Hardware and System Software
— Filing Equipment and Supplies

Interested bidders and agents of firms whose countries are members of the World Bank, Switzerland and Taiwan may obtain bid documents from the address below starting 12 July, 1986 on submission of a written application and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of U.S. \$60.00, or JD 20.00, or (English pounds 40.00).

All bidders are to submit their offers in two separate sealed envelopes. The first shall include qualification data.

The second envelope shall include prices along with a bid bond amounting to 3% of the total price valid for 60 days at least. The last date for obtaining the bid documents shall be July 31, 1986.

All correspondence should be addressed to:
Mr. Abdullah Elayyan, Director
Jordan Institute of Public Administration
P.O. Box 960383
Amman - Jordan
Telephone 664-111, 664-112.

DELUXE FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT

1. Ground floor apartment with garden. Consists of one bedroom, living room, veranda, garage and other amenities with central heating and telephone.
2. Two bedrooms, salon and sitting room with other amenities, central heating and telephone.

Location: Opposite Shmeisani Bookshop
Please call 663981

FURNISHED HOUSE TO LET DELUXE FURNISHED

A house around 8th Circle comprises three bedrooms, two salons, one sitting room, maid's room, centrally heated, two window type air-conditioners, telephone, P.O. Box, large garden, garage accommodates two cars, two bathrooms, two colour televisions and video, kitchen fully-equipped including two fridges, one deep freeze, dish washer, fully-automatic washing machine, all necessary facilities needed for cooking, barbeque, garden and roof facility for sitting.

Please contact 667018, 679849 and 641653 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

FOR RENT DELUXE FURNISHED APARTMENT

The apartment consists of two bedrooms, sitting room, dining room, lobby, washing room, fully-equipped kitchen and two bathrooms. It is fully furnished with new modern furniture, telephone and central heating with roof garden.

Location: Near Amra Hotel, Sixth Circle, Jabal Amman.
Minimum lease: One year
Reference Tel: 679376 - 812229

FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, big lounge, garage, separate central heating, telephone and furniture in good condition. Location: Shmeisani above Jordan Supermarket.

Yearly rent JD 3,500.
Enquiries Tel: 624719 or after working hours tel. 661058.

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The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan
1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Ahlyyah Girls School
Take away is available
Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.
6:30 - Midnight
Tel: 638968

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT
Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket
Mongolian Barbeque for lunch and dinner FRIDAY
Tel: 818214
Come and taste our specialities
Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.
6:30 - Midnight

CHINESE RESTAURANT TAIWAN TOURISMO
Authentic Chinese food
Friendly service
Convenient location
Also take-away service
Open daily: Noon - 3:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. - midnight
Location: Near 3rd Circle, opposite to Akilah Hospital
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The only typical Chinese cuisine in Amman.
Fully Airconditioned
Take away available
Open daily 12:00 - 15:30
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Amman, Jordan
Tel: 661922

CHINA RESTAURANT
NEXT TO GRINDLAYS BANK
Take away service available
Open daily 11:30 - 3:30 and 6:30 - 11:00
AQABA
Tel: 03-314415

Cinema
CONCORD
Tel: 677420

OUT OF AFRICA

Due to film length ... shows:
3:30, 6:15, 9:00

Cinema
Rainbow
Tel: 625155

JUST ONE OF THE GUYS

Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema
OPERA
Tel: 675573

WAITRESS

Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cine Theatre
Philadelpia
Tel: 634144, 634149

THE BALTIMORE BULLET

Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema
RAGHADAN
Tel: 622198

HANDS OF STEEL

Performances 12:15, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15

Economy

Japan's exports to Saudi Arabia decline by 22.4%

RIYADH (AP) — Japanese exports to Saudi Arabia were on the decline and fell 22.4 per cent during the first quarter of 1986 due to economic stagnation and the appreciation of the yen, according to Japanese embassy statistics released to local reporters Monday.

The Japanese ministry of international trade and industry reported that exports for the first three months of 1986 totalled \$740.5 million compared to \$954.3 million for the same period in 1985.

For the first quarter of 1983, before oil prices dipped, Japanese exports to Saudi Arabia totalled \$1.8 billion.

The Japanese embassy reported that Saudi purchases of Japanese machinery fell 17.9 per cent, television sets were down 31.9 per cent, radios off 78.6 per cent, cars and light trucks down 39.3 per cent, and tape recorders down 55.9 per cent.

Trade analysts here told the Associated Press that the steep decline in sales of home electronics such as tape recorders and radios was due to the drop in the number of expatriate workers, most of whom buy this category of goods to take home when they leave after contracts that average two years.

The Japanese also said their imports of Saudi goods, which are mainly crude oil, fell 42.2 per cent to \$1.9 billion for the first quarter, from \$3.4 billion for the same period in 1985.

One trade official, who spoke on condition his name not be mentioned, said "much of this is due to big decreases in crude purchases, but to the drop in the price of oil."

Saudi chemical sales to Japan rose 452 per cent from \$11.9 million to \$65.6 million. Japanese firms are partners in Sharq (Eastern Petrochemical Co.), a Jubail-based plant that produces linear low-density polyethylene and ethylene glycol.

AFP staff begin strike

PARIS (AP) — Employees of the French news agency Agence France Presse (AFP) will begin a 48-hour strike of all services starting Tuesday to protest a budget-cutting plan that will cost hundreds of jobs.

The cost-cutting plan announced by AFP Managing Director Henri Piget last week includes laying off 200 journalists, technicians and administrative staff in the next 12 months and a total 300 by 1988. English, German and Spanish language desks would also be largely moved out of Paris.

The agency lost 63.7 million francs (about \$9 million) in 1985, including 35 million francs in development of new services.

Most AFP unions called last week for a strike of domestic and foreign services, saying management refused to take part in negotiations to avoid layoffs.

Pepsico buys Seven-Up international operations

NEW YORK (AP) — Pepsico Inc., parent of the world's number two soft-drink producer, said Monday it has bought the international unit of rival Seven-Up Co. from Philip Morris Cos. for \$246 million in cash.

Seven-Up International, headquartered in Lausanne, Switzerland, is the third-largest soft drink company outside the United States and operates in more than 85 countries. Seven-Up also is third largest in the United States.

Pepsico earlier announced plans to buy both the U.S. and foreign operations of Seven-Up for \$380 million, but the U.S. Federal Trade Commission said it opposed the deal. Philip Morris subsequently ended that agreement.

Pepsico said the purchase of Seven-Up's international operations, completed on Friday, does not require governmental approval. Philip Morris still intends to sell Seven-Up's U.S. operations.

Coca-Cola Co. is the world's biggest soft-drink company. Pepsico will increase its overseas volume of 1.4 billion cases by 250 million cases through the purchase.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices declined steadily throughout the day after a mixed start mainly in reaction to the weakness of sterling which was more than one basis point down in trade-weighted terms at 73.5 at 1400 GMT.

Dealers noted weekend press comment that sterling is set to carry on falling particularly against currencies other than the dollar, mostly on weak oil prices and also in the deterioration of the U.K. non-oil balance of trade.

Government bonds showed falls ranging to almost two points in line with lower sterling, dealers added.

Dealers said the weakness in the government bond market is unlikely to attract a full subscription for Thursday's £800 million 8½ per cent 2007 treasury stock offered at a minimum tender price of 94½ per cent.

At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 index was 26.4 down at 1600.0. Operators said the thin trading conditions tended to magnify share price movements.

Standard Chartered closed 58p lower at 719 following the failure of Lloyds Bank's hostile £1.3 billion bid for company.

Horoscope not received

THE Daily Crossword by Victor Jambor, Jr.

ACROSS

1. Meat, food

2. Fish

10. Make a — at (try)

14. Money Dick

15. Corrosion-resistant metal

16. Gaelic

17. Sausage group

18. Song

20. Upright

21. More plucky

22. Heavy animal

26. Legend

28. Crowbar

29. More ashen

30. Feet

32. Prime's origin

33. Amorous

34. Blow on

37. Legendary town

39. Brevet

40. Ogled at

41. Variety of lettuce

42. Stick in mud

43. Sea cow

45. Groundwork

46. Fiss

48. Player word

49. Cucumber

50. Rude person

52. "I am"

53. Attractive

55. Krug's swimmer?

60. Tennis name

61. Street show

62. Sower

63. Promotory

64. Machine

65. Influence

DOWN

1. "I am"

2. Sound of

3. TV's TIT

4. Waterbird

5. Cornish

6. Ear part

7. Made into law

8. Cerebral

9. Antiquity

10. British

11. Harry James' understudy?

12. Lou Grant

13. Wallace or

14. Kind of beer

15. It's soap

16. Dismay, var.

17. Artificial

18. Machine

19. Mistletoe?

20. Sucker fish

21. Wood strips

22. Moose dot

23. Title

24. Uncanny

25. Astro

26. Sea horse

27. At

28. Killer

29. Substation

30. Critique

31. Lacinate

32. Adversity

33. Alaska highway

34. Put out the

35. fire

36. Vulture

37. Pipe joint

38. Special agents

39. A.M.A. people

40. Dietician

41. signal

42. Command to

43. a horse

44. Or, letter

45. Deficient

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

OPERA PACIT DIEN
REVIEW AMOR ADONE
REVIEW CHAIDHILL
SUNDECK NEOPARD
EROS TROL
SARA CASE REBUT
ASA ROOR DAILY
PATRIC KIP TEREI
EMILIE ERILE ERIE
BAILED ERILE MADIAN
SPAS HAVY
GROFEST GREFPER
RIBBERATE NALIVE
EMILIE ERILE TYPID
ERILE REIT SEIRIS

46. Adversity 47. Put out the 48. Vulture 49. Pipe joint 50. Special agents 51. A.M.A. people 52. Dietician 53. signal 54. Command to 55. a horse 56. Or, letter 57. Deficient

U.S. to lower forecast on growth next month

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker Sunday said the Reagan administration will soon lower its 1986 economic growth forecast as evidence mounts that the economy is more sluggish than originally predicted.

In a U.S. television interview, Mr. Baker also chided American trading partners for failing to match the interest rate cut made by the Federal Reserve board last week.

Mr. Baker declined to specify how low the administration will drop its gross national product (GNP) when it issues its mid-year revision next month. Early this year, it predicted an optimistic four per cent annual growth in GNP for 1986.

"I would say that growth has not been, and does not look like it will be during the course of 1986, what we had originally forecast, and there will be some reduction in our growth forecast," Mr. Baker said.

"I don't want to put a specific figure on it yet because it depends in part on our getting some additional numbers," Mr. Baker said.

The administration will announce its revised GNP forecast the week of Aug. 4, he said.

The first quarter GNP rate was revised to reflect a 2.9 per cent annual growth rate rather than a 3.7 per cent rate previously predicted. Many economists expect the second quarter GNP, which will be announced later this month, to reflect only about a two per cent or less annual growth rate.

Administration and Fed officials and many private economists had expected the U.S. economy to gain steam in the second half after a slow start in the first six months.

But the most recent string of data shows no sign of that happening yet.

In an effort to stimulate the economy, the Fed last Thursday lowered its key discount rate to six per cent from 6.5 per cent.

The move triggered an immediate reaction by major U.S. banks, which lowered their prime lending rates by a half-point to eight per cent, but failed to spark matching cuts by central banks of other Western industrial nations.

"That's regrettable — it really is when you're looking at negative growth in those countries," Mr. Baker said.

Mr. Baker gently criticised U.S. economic allies, particularly West Germany and Japan, for not following the rate cut, despite the sluggish performance of those economies.

The U.S. discount rate reduction was the third this year and brought the rate to its lowest level since January 1978.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Suez Canal reports record revenue

CAIRO (R) — The Suez Canal has for the first time earned Egypt more than \$1 billion, according to the canal authority's chairman, Mr. Ezzat Adel. Mr. Adel told the Cairo newspaper Al Akbar in an interview published Monday that the canal's earnings in the year ended June 30 had exceeded the \$1 billion level despite a reduction, caused by the Iran-Iraq war, in the number of oil tanker entries. The exact figure for the earnings was not immediately available. Mr. Adel said the canal authority, in conjunction with the Egyptian defence ministry and nuclear authority, was preparing a study for President Hosni Mubarak on new rules of transit for nuclear-driven ships.

Taiwan may buy U.S., M.E. oil wells

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwan, rich in cash but poor in energy resources, might buy oil wells in the U.S. and the Middle East to give it control over long-term supplies. An official of the state-owned Chinese Petroleum Corporation, said the current tumbling of crude prices prompted the idea. Surging exports of manufactured goods have given the island record foreign exchange reserves of \$31 billion, most of it lying in U.S. banks. Taiwan already spends \$100 million a year on oil exploration in joint ventures with U.S. companies in the United Arab Emirates, the Philippines and Indonesia. Falling oil prices slashed Taiwan's oil import bill by \$500 million to \$1.2 billion in the first six months of this year compared with the same period last year. The island imports about 330,000 barrels of oil a day.

Algeria, Yugoslavia to boost cooperation

BELGRADE (OPECNA) — Algeria hopes to export more oil and gas to Yugoslavia under an agreement signed here strengthening economic ties between the two countries. The agreement — formulated by the joint Algerian-Yugoslav committee for economic cooperation — calls for increased trade exchanges and more opportunities for involvement by Yugoslav construction firms in Algerian projects. In return, Yugoslavia will import more goods from Algeria, including larger quantities of oil and gas. Joint companies will be set up under the accord which also provides for an exchange of data on technology and sciences between the two countries.

Chance for OPEC accord fades as oil supplies mount, analysts say

NEW YORK (Agencies) — The surge in oil production by Saudi Arabia and its OPEC allies will undermine the group's ability to reach an accord on production, oil executives and analysts said Sunday.

The result, the experts said, would be to push oil prices down again, probably below \$10 in the near term.

But once prices plunged that low, stockpiling would begin, stimulating a price rise — but not to the \$20 per barrel mark, said executives and analysts at the 13th annual Columbia University energy forum.

Some of the experts attributed the Saudi production increase to a desire by the kingdom to go its own way, although they said they strongly doubted that Saudi Arabia would quit the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

"Saudi Arabia has changed and there is a growing feeling in the royal family that Saudi Arabia must go its own way. This change in attitude is more pronounced now," said a U.S. government official with experience in watching Saudi affairs.

Mr. John Lichtblau of the Petroleum Industry Research Foundation said OPEC is unlikely to reach a production pact at its meeting this month and might even fail to reach one at later sessions.

"It is possible OPEC will reach no agreement this year despite the desire of some members and this will keep prices in the \$10-\$12 a barrel range for the near term," he said.

U.S. industry officials also said fears about the Gulf war made it less likely that Iran and Iraq would approve an OPEC pact, and would force the Saudis and other nations to maintain a low oil price policy to keep Iran from building.

Executives and analysts seemed to agree that OPEC lacked the discipline needed to bring prices back to \$20.

Meanwhile, OPEC conference president, Mr. Alhaj Rikwan Lukman said at the weekend that

figures for national quotas now being studied by respective OPEC member countries have a "reasonable chance" of being accepted when OPEC meets later this month in Geneva.

In a telephone interview with OPECNA, the OPEC president, who is also Nigerian minister of petroleum resources, said he did not expect any "major adjustment" to the figures which represented "fair quotas based on extensive consultations."

As nobody was happy with the current price situation, Mr. Lukman felt "positive results" would come out of the Geneva meeting.

The OPEC president said a call for production restraint had been made at the end of the Brioni meeting last month.

He said if such restraint was exercised, pending a firm agreement, and with the cooperation of non-OPEC producers, a solution could be found to the challenges facing the market.

He described current market developments as "not surprising" because "traditionally at this time of the year, the market is on the low side," adding that the price situation would respond "not to magic," but to concerted action.

Describing the group of five OPEC oil ministers charged with the responsibility of contacting non-OPEC countries as an ad hoc group, he said the ministers would continue their work, while the long-term strategy committee, which had been in existence for years, had a "longer range."

He said it must be kept in mind that while OPEC had an organised structure, non-OPEC countries had no such common forum, but contact was nevertheless important.

Once there was understanding between OPEC and non-OPEC producers, and agreement could be reached.

The OPEC president recalled that there had been broad agreement at Brioni on production in the third and fourth quarters, an annual ceiling for OPEC countries and a price range.

"The idea is that having considered these issues, we can now tackle the question of national quotas," he added.

He described as "interesting" figures being published as OPEC countries' individual national quotas, but cautioned that they should be taken with "a pinch of salt" until there was an OPEC decision on new quotas.

On the issue of the majority-minority position within OPEC, Mr. Lukman pointed out that there was nothing new in that "in the history of OPEC."

He said at the Brioni meeting, Gabon had suggested a position "in between" that taken earlier at Geneva by 10 countries on the one hand and three on the other.

"Gabon was far from joining the minority as such. The country suggested a compromise," he added.

He said within OPEC, there had been different perceptions about price levels, adding that once an agreement was reached, even those outside the organisation who were now speculating would realise that "that ball game will be different."

He dismissed rumours towards the end of last week that Saudi Arabia and Kuwait were reviewing their relationship with OPEC.

"Neither country would do a thing that way. There is nothing like that," he said emphatically.

New wave of cutbacks loom over world shipyard

DUNKIRK, France (R) — European shipyards are steeling themselves for a new round of closures as governments lose patience with handing out heavy subsidies to prop up the ailing industry, shipbuilding analysts say.

World economic recovery has passed the shipbuilders by and new trading patterns and a large fleet of mothballed carriers have pushed back prospects for new orders into the 1990s.

Few European shipyards expect to survive that long. In this northern French port, eight centuries of shipbuilding are set to end by 1987 — threatening to turn a busy waterfront of workshops, dry docks and towering cranes into an industrial wasteland.

The sight is already familiar in the once-proud ports and riverside towns of Europe. But the problem is not confined to the West. From the Sea of Japan to the Baltic, recession and fierce Far Eastern competition are hitting into the order books, a Reuters survey shows.

Even the Asian shipyards, which themselves contributed so much to the downfall of European shipbuilding, are suffering — with world leader Japan aiming to reduce capacity by 20 per cent by March 1988, officials in Tokyo said.

Industry sources said improved technology in South Korea was making it hard for Japan to compete because of higher labour costs.

In Taiwan, the state-owned China Shipbuilding Corp. has not received any new orders in the past 11 months and prospects are bleak, Chairman William Wei said.

But while other countries cut back, China is emerging as a serious competitor. It increased output by an annual 13.6 per cent over the last five years and plans to almost double its exports during the 1986-90 period from 1981-85, officials said.

And South Korea, itself hit by recession, has launched a campaign to increase productivity by an annual 10 per cent until 1988, Korea Shipbuilders' Association officials said.

"If our shipbuilding industry can survive in the next few years, it will regain strength helped by an expected turnaround in foreign orders," one official said.

Many countries cut capacity after the 1973 oil shock which depressed trade and reduced demand for oil tankers.

But the recent recovery in world trade has failed to filter through to shipbuilding orders. One analyst in Paris said it would take several years for the slack of unused ships to be taken up and a balance restored between supply and demand.

The crisis comes as many European governments are moving towards more market-oriented economies and cutting subsidies to loss-making industries.

France's new right-wing government announced last month it would cut shipbuilding aid — estimated at 300,000 francs (\$43,500) per worker per year.

Within days, one of the country's two main shipbuilders, Chantiers du Nord et de la Mediterranee, went into receivership, putting at risk its Dunkirk and Mediterranean yards and some 7,000 jobs.

Last week West Germany's fourth largest shipping group, Harmstorf, followed the same

road by announcing it was putting its three yards into receivership. Officials warn that the whole industry may collapse unless it gets government help as incoming orders are at an all-time low. By 1990 demand for ships under the West German flag could be halved, a study by the Bremen-based Institute of Shipping and Logistics said.

In Britain, jobs and yards also have disappeared, with the Conservative government reluctant to continue support. The country's state-owned British Shipbuilders announced plans in May to axe over a third of its workforce — some 3,495 jobs. It said the lack of new orders would force the closure of yards in northeast England and Scotland.

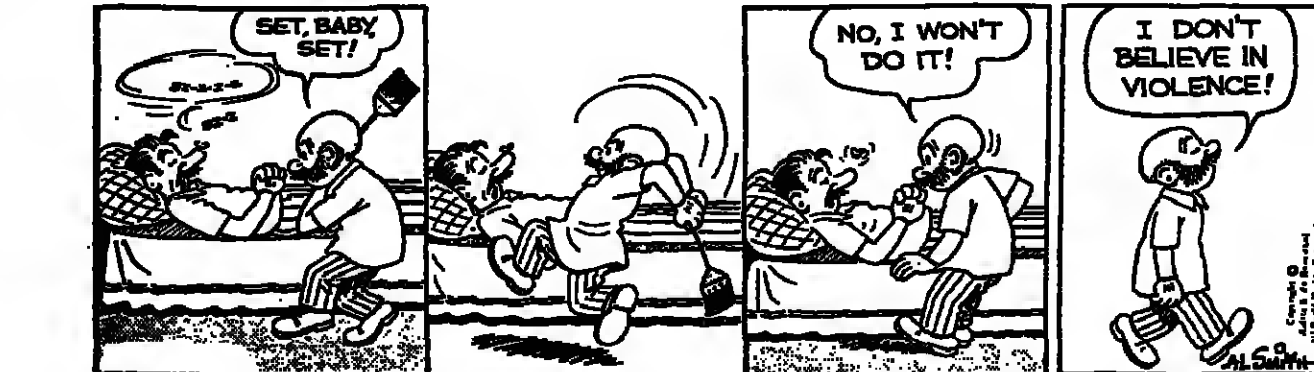
Britain built more than half the world's merchant ships 40 years ago, but last year it was 17th in the World Shipbuilding League with less than one per cent of the market.

In the early 1970s, Sweden trailed only Japan among the world's shipbuilding nations. Today it accounts for less than two per cent of the market.

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF By Harris

"I figured, why spend \$200 for hang-glider lessons when I can practice at home on the chandelier!"

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter in each square, to form four ordinary words.

ZENOO

RUILD

GROFER

POLEEP

Answer: ZENOO, RUILD, GROFER, POLEEP

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: ZENOO, RUILD, GROFER, POLEEP

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: PANSY APRON BISECT HEAVEN

Answer: Another name for "hors d'oeuvres" — "APPE-TISERS"

Thousands of black students boycott classes in S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — Thousands of black students boycotted classes in some townships while other areas reported normal attendance as schools reopened Monday under tough new security rules.

Meanwhile, black trade unions mounted go-slows, strikes and other industrial protests in a national "day of action" against detentions of union leaders under the state of emergency imposed on June 12.

As 7,000 black schools reopened for the new term, a share of the 1.7 million students, especially in major cities, stayed home in renewed protests that have disrupted black education for two years.

Most high schools in Soweto, Johannesburg's black township, and in the Alexandra ghetto were nearly deserted, residents said. Boycotts also were reported in the

Vaal region south of Johannesburg and in the East Rand, the industrial district east of the city.

Some schools in Pretoria's townships had a normal turnout while in others, few students attended, reporters said.

The government said attendance figures would not be available until late in the day.

On Sunday, President P.W. Botha, issued rules requiring all students to reapply for admission on Monday, and empowering school officials to refuse to admit students without giving reasons. That raised the possibility that boycotters will be refused

admission when they decide to return to school.

Some Soweto youths told reporters they planned to boycott for the entire week to protest the emergency and the new security rules, which include identity cards for pupils. Students attacked and burned a delivery truck in Soweto, but the huge township was reportedly peaceful otherwise and security patrols were not especially heavy.

The 500,000-member Congress of South African Trade Unions led the national "day of action" protest through some 30 affiliate unions. By mid-morning it was still unclear how many workers were taking part.

Transport officials said commuter traffic around Johannesburg was between 70 and 80 per cent normal, suggesting that there was no major general strike. But union officials said they anticipated that workers

would go to their jobs, and then stage actions at the workplace such as go-slows and sit-down strikes.

Many black workers in the industrial suburbs east of Johannesburg, a stronghold of black union activity, appeared to be staying home, one company spokesman said.

In Durban, the Metal and Allied Workers Union argued in a provincial supreme court case that the entire emergency decree was invalid. The complaint alleged that Mr. Botha had failed to notify parliament formally of the declaration, and that a ban on making "subversive statements" was void because it was too vague to be enforceable.

The union also is seeking the release of more than two dozen of its senior officials, who are among an estimated 3,500 people detained without charge under the emergency.

Canada vows to go ahead with Pretoria sanctions

MONTREAL (R) — Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney emerged from talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher saying Canada was ready to impose economic sanctions on South Africa with or without the support of Mrs. Thatcher and the Commonwealth.

Mrs. Thatcher returned to England Monday convinced she is right in opposing mandatory sanctions against South Africa despite efforts by Mr. Mulroney to persuade her otherwise, British officials said.

The officials travelling with Mrs. Thatcher on her way back from Montreal where she had a 90-minute meeting Sunday night with Mr. Mulroney said she had not modified her position in any way.

Mrs. Thatcher's meeting with him climaxed a three-day visit to Canada that was overshadowed by her determination to resist growing pressure for mandatory sanctions against Pretoria from within the 49-nation Commonwealth, which groups former British colonies.

Mr. Mulroney, who is emerging as a key figure in the sanctions debate, told reporters after his meeting with Mrs. Thatcher that he was prepared to go it alone in imposing tougher measures against South Africa to pressure the government into ending its apartheid racial segregation policies.

Mrs. Thatcher told him she was convinced sanctions would never be enough to force Pretoria to abandon its apartheid racial policy.

Mr. Mulroney, who called the meeting "a fairly exhaustive and very frank exchange of views," told reporters that a failure by the 49 Commonwealth members to agree on an approach would be "bonanza" for South African President P.W. Botha.

He said that Canada hoped for unanimity, but "failing that we won't hesitate to act on our own, in concert with those who support that approach."

Mr. Mulroney did not specify what sanctions Canada is prepared to impose on Pretoria.

Canada has imposed limited sanctions, including a ban on government agencies doing business with South Africa.

Mr. Mulroney's interpretation of the Commonwealth's so-called Eminent Persons Group (EPG) report differed from Mrs. Thatcher's.

Mrs. Thatcher said in her view the EPG report did not recommend economic sanctions as a weapon against apartheid.

Mr. Mulroney called South Africa's white-ruled government "an evil regime that has not changed in its fundamentals."

System created to check radiation above reactor

MOSCOW (AP) — Scientists have created a system for measuring radiation in and above the ruined Chernobyl reactor by inserting a giant metal "needle" inside it, the Communist Party daily Pravda said Monday.

Three helicopters were used in the operation to insert into the reactor a 59-foot (18 metre) steel tube about 3.5 inches (10 cm) in diameter and packed with instruments, Pravda said.

Scientists who designed the system determined that two-thirds of the tube should be inserted into the reactor, with the remaining one-third protruding into the air, Pravda said.

The tube is connected to a 990-foot (300 metre) long set of cables transmitting data from inside and above the reactor to instruments some distance away, the newspaper said, without specifying where the measurements are read.

Quoting from an interview with one of the helicopter pilots who put the system in place, Pravda said the attempt to insert the giant "needle" into the reactor failed twice before succeeding because the pilot positioning the tube could not get it to penetrate a layer of unspecified material above the ruined reactor.

It was not clear from the account whether the layer was formed of material which burned up in the flames engulfing the reactor after it was ripped open by a chemical explosion on April 26, or whether it consisted of some of the tons of sand, lead and boron dropped on the reactor to cut radiation emissions after the accident.

The Chernobyl disaster claimed 26 lives, according to the last official death count, which was issued on June 5.

Pravda said scientists receive continuous radiation readings from the instruments inside the tube, and also from what it said was an umbrella put up at the joint between the tube and the cables connected to it.

The device makes it unnecessary for the helicopter pilots to fly dangerous daily missions over the reactor to take radiation readings.

The fact that it was deemed necessary to devise the apparatus indicated that radioactivity is still extremely high in the immediate area of the reactor.

Previous Soviet media accounts have said that workers cleaning up after the accident are allowed in the area of the reactor for only a minute at a time if they have to work there.

Church seeks to negotiate release of Filipino nuns

MANILA (R) — Roman Catholic Church officials Monday sent a high-level team to the southern Philippines to try to negotiate the release of 10 nuns kidnapped at the weekend by suspected Muslim rebels, a spokesman said.

He said the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines named Bishop Fernando Capalla as head of a team hoping to negotiate with the kidnappers in Lanao Del Sur province in central Mindanao.

The Carmelite nuns were abducted on Friday from a secluded convent in Marawi, the provincial capital, about 800 kilometres south east Manila, the centre of the Muslim minority Maranao tribe. Capalla is bishop of neighbouring Iligan city.

In another weekend abduction in Marawi, armed men on Saturday seized an American Protestant missionary at Mindanao State University, the second clergyman kidnapped on the campus in six weeks.

Lanao Del Sur, with a population of more than 600,000, is about 95 per cent Muslim. But it was not clear whether the abductions were motivated by religion, local politics or simply for ransom.

According to witnesses, about 40 heavily armed men entered the newly formed convent, herded the nuns aboard two motorboats on Lake Marawi and took them to Raman, about 15 kilometres south east of the city.

Brig. Gen. Pedro Balbanero, deputy chief of armed forces

southern command, said the kidnappers were believed to be from a faction of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), which has been fighting for secession for more than 10 years.

It was the latest and most spectacular in a spate of kidnapping in Marawi during the past six weeks involving Christian clergy.

Armed men abducted Baptist missionary Brian Lawrence at a university campus on Saturday.

A military spokesman said Lawrence, from Madison, Wisconsin, was dragged from his apartment and driven away in a waiting car.

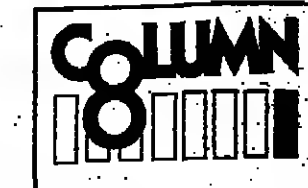
The kidnappers missed his wife, Carol, who hid in a cupboard, the spokesman added.

Early in June, French Catholic priest Michel Gignard was snatched from the university campus. He was released unharmed after three weeks in captivity.

He told reporters he believed his kidnappers were Muslim rebels who mistook him for an American spy with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Bishops conference Chairman Ricardo Cardinal Vidal said the nuns' kidnapping was a shock to the church hierarchy in the Philippines, where more than 80 per cent of the 54 million inhabitants are Roman Catholic.

The head of the Carmelite order in the Philippines, Mother Lois Mary, said the nuns were the first members of a newly founded monastery in Marawi.



Solar power keeps heads cool

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwaiti science club members have invented an air-conditioned helmet to combat the desert climate's fierce heat. Cooled by a tiny solar-power unit, local dailies describe it as a boon for labourers and engineers working in summer temperatures rising to 50 degrees (122 Fahrenheit).

30 million-year-old fossil found in Iran

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — An Iranian geology teacher has found a willow fossil believed to be 25-30 million year old in the southern Iranian province of Khuzestan, Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Sunday. The agency, monitored here, said the teacher, Mohammad Houshmand, found the fossil during exploration in Shoushtar near Karoon river, 200 kilometres, north of the tip of the Gulf. IRNA quoted Houshmand as telling the newspaper Keyhan that the fossil shows a six-centimetre leaf, including its smooth edges, short stem and venation, "magnificently." Houshmand was quoted as saying that the fossil find indicates that the area of the discovery had advanced forms of plant and animal life at the time.

Sex cult banned in China

PEKING (AP) — The public security ministry said Monday it had banned a religious cult that it said offered sex and pornography to recruit members. A statement by Huang Xishou, a ministry spokesman, identified the group as the Children of God. "It is true that members of the organisation have carried out secret activities in China to preach licentious ideology, distribute pornographic materials in an attempt to recruit members and corrupt some of our young people in serious violation of China's law," he said. The cult is banned and its existence and growth will not be tolerated, he said.

Nurse sentenced to 60 lashes for drinking

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — An Australian nurse, Diane Elizabeth Bartram, has been arrested in Saudi Arabia for alcohol consumption and sentenced to 60 lashes, but will probably be deported instead, Riyadh-based Western diplomats reported Monday. "To my knowledge, no Western expatriate female has been given strokes in my time here," said one Commonwealth diplomat stationed in Riyadh for several years, who spoke on condition he not be named. A U.S. diplomat based in the Saudi capital, also refusing to be named under his embassy regulations, said "usually the Saudis are easier on women than men." Under Saudi Arabia's Islamic Sharia Law those who consume alcohol are publicly caned. Bartram, whose age and hometown were not released by the Australian embassy here in Riyadh, was arrested an undisclosed time ago in the region of Khafis Mushayt for drinking alcoholic beverages. Alcoholic beverages are banned in Saudi Arabia, but smuggling, home brewing or distilling provide alcohol to Saudis and expatriates alike.

High-cost marriages becoming burden for Chinese peasants

PEKING (AP) — The cost of marriage is getting so high in China's countryside that it is becoming a major burden for peasants and creating social problems, the official press has reported. The Peasant Daily (Nongmin Ribao) said an investigation in Shandong province indicated marriage could cost a groom and his family up to 6,000 yuan (\$1,620) in an area where the average peasant income last year was 450 yuan (\$120). Marriage expenses have increased as peasants have become prosperous under the country's economic reforms and "the price of young people's marriages has become a burden for peasant households," the newspaper said. Some of the cost is the result of observing old customs, the paper said. Sometimes as much as 800 yuan (\$215) is paid for "meeting money." Another 500 to 1,500 yuan (\$135 to \$405) is paid by the man's side at an engagement ceremony during which he also serves the bride's relatives wine, the newspaper said.

Vietnam president named party leader

MOSCOW (R) — The Vietnamese Communist Party Monday elected the country's 60-year-old president, Truong Chinh, as its leader, succeeding Le Duan who died last Thursday, the Soviet News Agency TASS said.

A TASS despatch from Hanoi said a special meeting of the Vietnamese party Central Committee was held to choose a new leader.

Le Duan died aged 79 after suffering for several years from reported kidney and lung problems. His funeral will take place Tuesday.

Mr. Truong Chinh led

Vietnamese politburo members around Le Duan's coffin in a mourning procession.

Mr. Truong Chinh becomes only the third man to lead the Vietnamese party since it was founded by Ho Chi Minh 56 years ago.

Some Bangkok-based diplomats monitoring Vietnamese affairs had said the post could remain vacant until the sixth party congress expected in November.

Mr. Le Duan, an austere revolutionary, took over in 1960, stressing collective leadership and shunning any hint of a personality

6 stabbed to death in Ahmedabad communal violence

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — At least six people were reported knifed to death Monday in Gujarat state as widespread Muslim-Hindu clashes continued for the sixth consecutive day.

The violence raged despite imposition of curfews in the state's four major cities and deployment of paramilitary troops. On Monday, hundreds of additional troops of India's Border Security Force were flown to Gujarat, authorities said.

The Gujarat government, meanwhile, ordered a judicial probe into last week's Muslim attacks on a Hindu religious procession which provoked the bloody communal violence, the state's top elected official said.

The United News of India (UNI) news agency reported that four people were fatally stabbed in Ahmedabad, the state's main city and scene of the worst bloodletting. Two of the slayings occurred in a fashionable suburb, it said.

Two others were stabbed to death in another curfew-bound town, Broach, UNI said.

Police opened fire in Ahmedabad and Baroda to quell widespread rioting, looting and arson. UNI and the government's All-India Radio reported several people were wounded by police gunfire.

Indian newspapers earlier reported that as many as 60 people have perished in the violence in the western Indian state. Eight of the victims have been burned to death, and rival gangs have fought running street battles with knives, firebombs, acid and bamboo staves.

The Hindustan Times, New Delhi's largest daily, reported 51 of the fatalities occurred in Ahmedabad. UNI, however, placed the death toll there at 47 after the latest slaying.

Authorities relaxed the curfew in Ahmedabad Monday to permit women to buy groceries, vegetables, fruit and milk. Males, however, were not allowed to leave their homes, the radio newscast said.

Curfews remained in force Monday in two other Gujarat cities — Baroda and Bhavnagar — state police said.

UNI said about 400 troops of India's Border Security Force were deployed Monday in Ahmedabad, Gujarat's main city and India's fifth largest.

In a separate statement, the bishops conference urged the government to restore "political, administrative, economic, social and cultural tasks" to civilians.

The statement also called on to Chileans to seek an end to the political violence that has taken dozens of lives in recent years.

The bishops called "the military character of the government" a major cause of Chile's political violence.

They also blamed such violence on police repression and leftist terrorism and said the poverty, hunger and suffering of millions of Chileans are also a factor.

They accused the police of using "procedures of war against the civilian population, causing terror, anguish and anger." Terrorism, the said, "means the total lack of respect for human rights, the total lack of democracy."

Monsignor Jorge Houton, one of three bishops visiting the jailed dissidents, told reporters that the visit and the expressions of solidarity "correspond to what the church thinks, although the military regime couldn't care less."

The present military government took power in a 1973 coup that toppled elected Marxist President Salvador Allende.

Last week, Gen. Pinochet hinted that he would seek to remain in power until 1997 under the 6-year-old military-written constitution. His statements prompted opposition parties to vow to step up their struggle against military rule.

The bishops' action was one of the strongest action so far by the influential Catholic Church in support of the growing demands for democracy in Chile.

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Kanak leader sees no role for Libya

PORT MORESBY (R) — A New Caledonian independence leader has said there is no role for Libya in the Melanesian peoples' fight for independence from France.

Yvan Celene Uregei, a leading member of the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front (FLNKS), said Sunday night his movement looked to support mainly from other Melanesian states in the South Pacific.

Mr. Uregei's recent support for links with Tripoli led to his suspension from the FLNKS as their foreign-affairs spokesman, according to Western diplomats.

Mr. Uregei, who has visited Libya three times, told a news conference in the Papua New Guinea capital that the suspension was a "minor difference" within the front.

Mr. Uregei is a member of a delegation from France's troubled South Pacific territory that is holding talks here with leaders from Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands.

Another delegation member, Dick Ukeiwe, the moderate president of New Caledonia's territorial assembly, said there was no reason why New Caledonian independence could not be achieved peacefully.

Mr. Ukeiwe said he supported plans for a referendum next year on the future status of New Caledonia, which was shaken by clashes between the Kanaks, who are the indigenous Melanesians, and white settlers early last year.

The conflict triggered by a drive for independence by the militant

FLNKS left more than 20 people dead.

The territory's future following the election to office in France of a rightist coalition is expected to be the focus of talks between the New Caledonian leaders and the three Melanesian states.

The French National Assembly last week approved the government's plans for New Caledonia, which include a referendum on independence that FLNKS militants have threatened to boycott.

The plans also reduce the power of local councils, mostly controlled by Kanaks, which were founded by the previous Socialist government.

The Kanaks make up about 43 per cent of the territory's 145,000 population.

U.S. concerned about opium production in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo is expected to face tough questions in Washington this week about his government's efforts to suppress Pakistan's huge heroin industry, given a sharp jump in opium production.

Mr. Junejo, who arrives in Washington Tuesday for talks with President Ronald Reagan and top U.S. officials, will be pressed to give assurances that his government is making every effort to curb heroin and opium production, Western diplomatic sources said.

Pakistan is the fourth largest recipient of American foreign aid.

The region formed by northern Pakistan, Afghanistan and parts of Iran is the world's largest single source of opium used to manufacture heroin, according to the United Nations.

The United States is deeply concerned about the government's willingness and

ability to tackle the opium problem because of an increase in this year's poppy crop, said the sources, who declined to be identified.

The opium is refined into heroin in illegal labs in Pakistan and shipped to the United States and Western Europe.

The crop now being harvested is estimated to produce between 100 metric tons and 150 metric tons, the sources said. Last year's crop produced about 45 metric tons, they said.

"The problem could be starting to get out of hand again," said one Western expert.

Mr. Junejo, in a July 2 interview with the Associated Press, said the opium problem is not as serious as the United States believes and he is confident the government will end drug production despite the increase in the current poppy crop.

"Pakistan believes in complete eradication of poppy cultivation," he said.

Efforts to curb opium production have run into serious problems because of resistance from tribal poppy growers that has flared into occasional violent clashes with security forces.

The government is also hampered by the need to maintain the political support of the poppy-growing tribes, some of

whom revolted last December and sought assistance from the Communist government of Afghanistan. The uprising was quickly quelled through negotiations, but the tribes clung to their right to produce opium.

Pakistan is the fourth largest recipient of American assistance and the Reagan administration has proposed a new six-year \$4 billion programme when the \$3.2 billion programme ends in 1987.

American aid to Pakistan rocketed following Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan in 1979. The Pakistanis now serve as the conduit for U.S. military assistance to Afghan guerrillas.

Mr. Junejo heads the civilian government that took over with the lifting of martial law on Dec. 30 after almost nine years of military rule. President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq, the former military ruler, remains as president and army commander.

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5 bomb explosions kill 2 in Portuguese cities

LISBON (Agencies) — Five bombs exploded in three Portuguese cities on Monday, killing two people and injuring one in central Lisbon, police said.

The other bombs went off in and around the towns of Setubal and Evora, causing only damage to a country house, a post office, shops, houses and cars, they said.

The one big explosion occurred in Lisbon's Avenida Estados Unidos da America, destroying part of an apartment and killing two of the three occupants.

Police said they believed two youths killed in the Lisbon blast were handling explosives at the time of their deaths.

There was no claim of responsibility for the Evora and Setubal blasts by early afternoon, although police confirmed the incidents appeared identical to dozens of other bombings claimed around the country in recent years by the shadowy left-wing group, the Popular Forces of April 25 (FP-25).

In Lisbon, police bomb squad

experts confirmed evidence had been found at the duplex apartment of a army Lieutenant-Colonel Eduardo Miranda Relvas that the 3 a.m. explosion that killed the two youths had been set off by the victims themselves.

Police said one of the victims was Joao Manuel Miranda Relvas, son of Col. Miranda Relvas, and the other a friend of his. The friend was not identified.

The Portuguese news agency Noticias de Portugal carried a report saying the younger Miranda Relvas had been a member of the leftist Popular Democratic Union (UDP) party, but quoted UDP leaders as denying he was a member.

One of the small bombs went off outside the home of a land-owning family near Evora, scene of earlier bombings by FP-25 in a campaign against changes in agrarian reform which gave land to the peasants after the 1974 revolution that toppled a right-wing dictatorship.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q1.—With neither vulnerable and the opponents 40 on score, you hold:
♠K8 ♣A105 ♢AQ832 ♣1072
Your right hand opponent opens the bidding with one spade. What action do you take?

A.—Had there been no partner, there is no question that you should pass—a takeout double, furing partner to bid at the two-level would be fraught with danger, and a